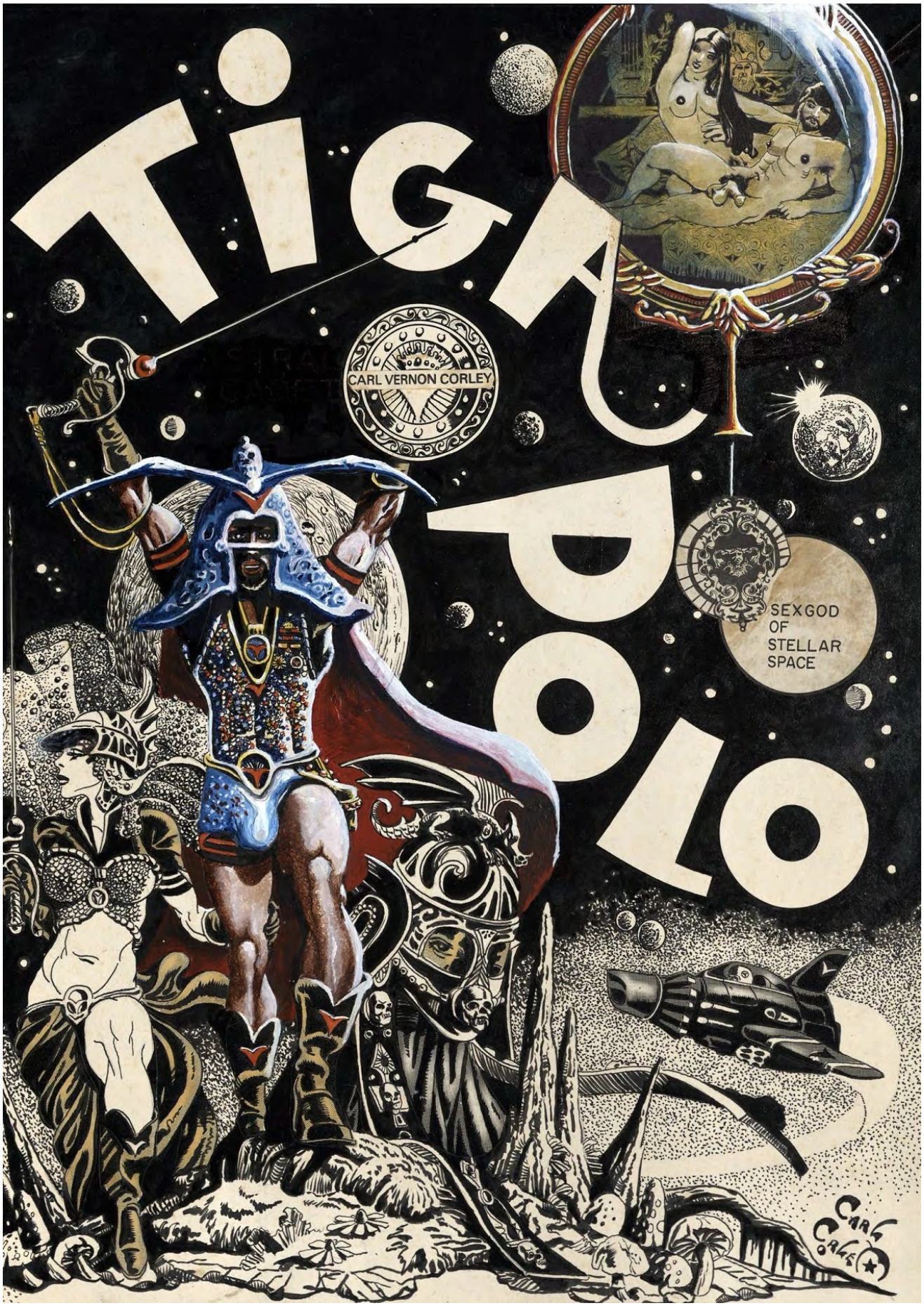

TIGRIS POLO
CARL VERNON CORLEY
SEXGOD OF STELLAR SPACE
CARL CORLEY

PLATE-ONE

WHEREVER MAN APPEARS IN THE UNIVERSE_TODAY OR A MILLION YEARS INTO THE FUTURE_IT IS CERTAIN THAT HE WILL APPEAR VERY MUCH LIKE OUR HOMOSAPIEN ON EARTH SINCE THE SAME CHEMICAL ELEMENTS EXIST THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE,CHEMICAL SIMILARITY MEANS PHYSICAL AND GENETIC SIMILARITY. THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND TH APPEARANCE OF ALL LIFE IS NOT FORMED AT RANDOM.

MAN'S SEX DESIRES ON OUR OWN PLANET ECHOES THE SEXUAL DESIRES OF EVERY HUM INHABITANT IN OUR UNIVERSE. IT IS THE ABSTRACT IN SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND MORAL STANDARD THAT SCALE THE DIFFERENCE.

THE AUTH

PLATE-TWO

OF ALL THE LIVING THINGS
ON PLANETS, MOONS,
AND SKY
THE MALE MUST FIND A MATE,
OR THE
MALE
WILL DIE---

THE AUTHOR

SEX IS LIKE WATER
IN A CUP.
IT SHAPES ITSELF
TO THE VESSEL THAT CONTAINS I

CARL CORLE

MY NAME IS GALAXUS. I AM A NATIVE OF TARAHALLA, THE FATHER PLANET OF THE UNIVERSE. I AM SCIENTIST, PHILOSOPHER, HISTORIAN, PHYSICIAN, AND SERVANT TO A RENOWNED HOMO SAPIEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH.

I HAVE AMBITION OF MIND, PUTTING ASIDE ALL MY WORTHWHILE DUTIES TO ACCOMPLISH A MORE NOTEWORTHY TASK, TO ACCOUNT IN AN ENGRAVING THE DEEDS OF THIS MAN. I SHALL ENGRAVE A NOVELLA ABOUT THIS MAGNIFICENT MAN AND ABOUT HIS HALF-BREED SON, TIGA POLO—*THE SAVAGE ADVENTURER*—AND ABOUT THEIR LIFE MANY LIGHT YEARS DISTANCE FROM THEIR BELOVED EARTH.

IT WILL BE THEIR SAGA THAT I TAKE STYLUS IN HAND, SO THAT IN THE MILLENNIUMS TO COME ALL MAY READ AND KNOW OF THIS STRANGE EARTHMAN WHO CAME TO US FROM ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.

BUT—I AM AN OLD MAN AND A TIRED MAN, SOON TO MEET THE SUPREME DOMINION. SO—HOW CAN THE FRAIL LIKES OF ME RECORD THE AMBITIONS AND HEARTBREAKS OF OTHERS OUT OF MY OWN LONELY, BURNING HEART?
BUT, I MUST RECORD THIS CHRONICLE! SO—I RECORD------

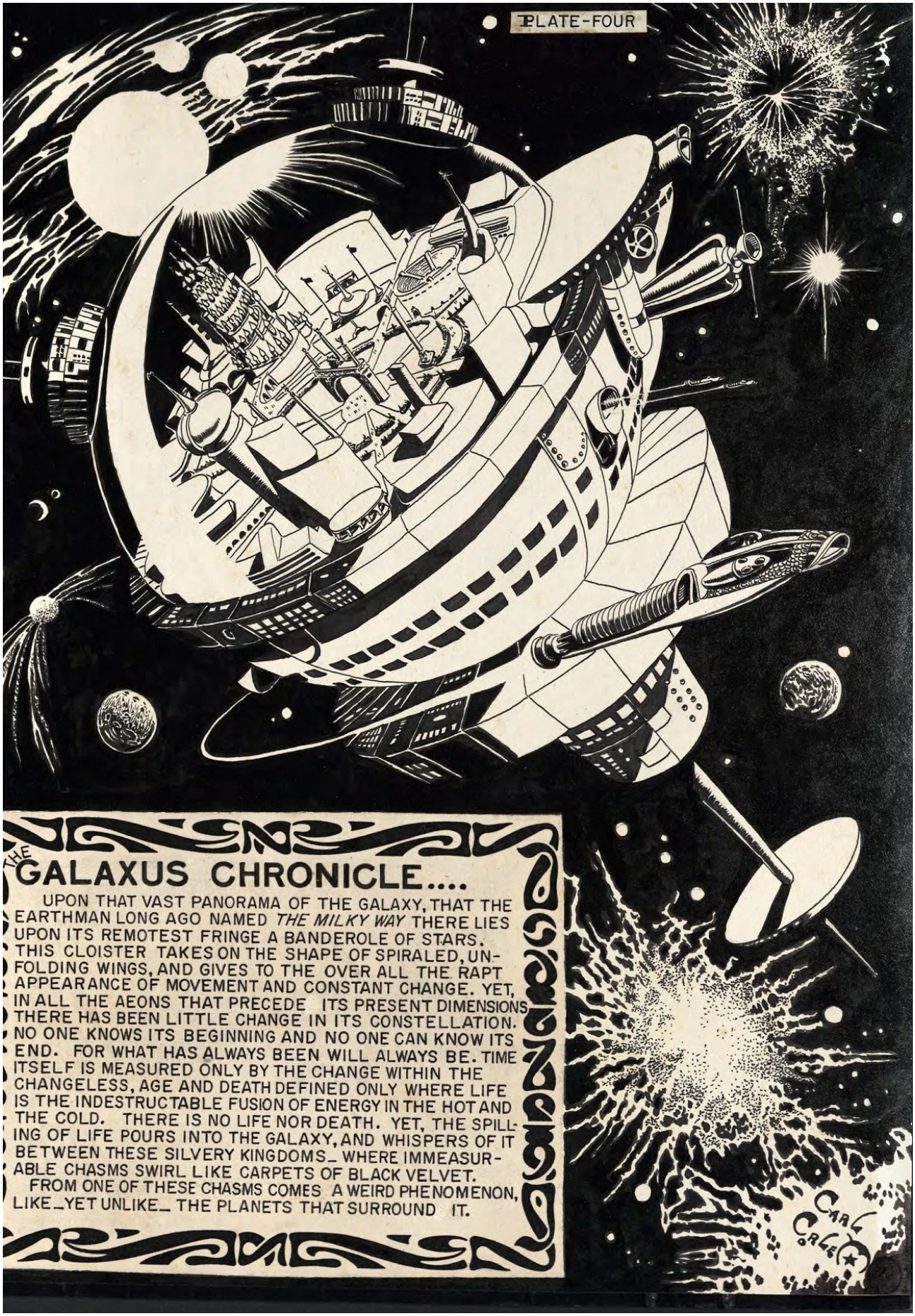


PLATE-FOUR
THE GALAXUS CHRONICLE....
UPON THAT VAST PANORAMA OF THE GALAXY, THAT THE EARTHMAN LONG AGO NAMED *THE MILKY WAY* THERE LIES UPON ITS REMOTEST FRINGE A BANDEROLE OF STARS. THIS CLOISTER TAKES ON THE SHAPE OF SPIRALED, UNFOLDING WINGS, AND GIVES TO THE OVER ALL THE RAPT APPEARANCE OF MOVEMENT AND CONSTANT CHANGE. YET, IN ALL THE AEONS THAT PRECEDE ITS PRESENT DIMENSIONS THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANGE IN ITS CONSTELLATION. NO ONE KNOWS ITS BEGINNING AND NO ONE CAN KNOW ITS END. FOR WHAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN WILL ALWAYS BE. TIME ITSELF IS MEASURED ONLY BY THE CHANGE WITHIN THE CHANGELESS, AGE AND DEATH DEFINED ONLY WHERE LIFE IS THE INDESTRUCTABLE FUSION OF ENERGY IN THE HOT AND THE COLD. THERE IS NO LIFE NOR DEATH. YET, THE SPILLING OF LIFE POURS INTO THE GALAXY, AND WHISPERS OF IT BETWEEN THESE SILVERY KINGDOMS_ WHERE IMMEASURABLE CHASMS SWIRL LIKE CARPETS OF BLACK VELVET.
FROM ONE OF THESE CHASMS COMES A WEIRD PHENOMENON, LIKE_YET UNLIKE_ THE PLANETS THAT SURROUND IT.
CARL CRAIG

THOUGH ARRESTING IS THIS SPECTACLE, OUR RAPT ATTENTION IS DRAWN SHARPLY TO SOMETHING ELSE.

A TINY CRAFT, AN ELF SPRITE COMPARED TO THE GARGANTUAN VESSEL IT APPROACHES, IS MAKING AN ARC AROUND THE SHIP. IT DOES NOT RIDE THE INVISIBLE WAVES OF SPACE AS DOES THE SHIP IT ENCOUNTERS, SMOOTHLY, PONDERABLY, BUT DIPS AND SWAYS RECKLESSLY, AS IF THE MOLTEN BALLAST OF ITS TINY EQUATOR ALTERNATELY POURS FROM POLE TO POLE.

WITHIN THE FIGHTER SPRITE THERE IS A LONE ASTRAL PILOT, WITHOUT A DOUBT A GALACTIC WARRIOR, FOR HIS IRIDESCENT HELMET, SO MARKED, IDENTIFIES HIS BRAND. IT REFLECTS HIS INSIGNIA BENEATH THE AZURE BUBBLE COVERTURE. AND NOW, FROM MY OWN PRIVATE SCOW WHERE I OBSERVE HIM SO CLEARLY, I RECOGNIZE WHO HE IS. HE IS THE MIGHTY EARTHMAN.

THE FACE INSIDE THE HELMET IS SMEARED WITH BLOOD, AND HIS CAPE IS LIKE A CRIMSON BANNER.

GRADUALLY THE CRAFT SLOWS. THEN, BY WAY OF ONE OF THE EMBARKING SLITS THAT LINE THE CATACOMBS, IT ENTERS THE SHIP AND DISAPPEARS INTO THE DARK CONFINES.....

PLATE-SEVEN
TIGA POLO WAS NOT A BARBARIAN, AS HIS FELLOW ASTRALIERS OFTEN IMPLIED. NOR DID HE POSSESS THE PRIMEVAL IMPERFECTIONS OF HIS FATHER, A WARRIOR FROM THE PLANET EARTH. BUT THERE WAS ABOUT HIM A PREDOMINATE RUGGEDNESS, A SWARTHINESS, THAT INTER-PLANETARY LIFE COULD NOT WHOLLY OBLITERATE, A FEROCITY UNLIKE THE PETITE, CLASSIC NATURES OF THOSE STELLAR-BORN.
HE WAS BEAUTIFUL, ALMOST TO THE EXOTIC. THERE WAS ABOUT HIS FEATURES THE STRANGE BEAUTY THAT WAS HIS MOTHER—HIGH PRIESTESS OF TARATHULE—HIS PROFILE ECHOING FAINT TRACES OF THAT CAMEO PERFECTION SO PRIZED AMONG ROYALTY AND GUARDED AGAINST INBRED INVASION THAT COULD DEFORM THE CLASSIC STRAIN.
HE INHERITED FROM THE PRIMITIVE EARTHMAN A SINEWY PHYSIQUE AND A RIOT OF BLACK, CURLY HAIR—A NOVELTY FOR THE STELLAR RACE WHOSE CROWNS WERE FLAXEN WOOL. HIS ELFIN STATUE AND TAWNY COMPLEXION CAME FROM HIS MOTHER. BUT HIS EYES WERE HIS OWN. THEY WERE HIS LEGACY TO THE UNITED GALAXY. UNLIKE THE SILVER ORBS OF THE VACUUM-BORN, HIS WERE BLACK, INTENSE BLACK.
CARL CRLE

PLATE-EIGHT

TIGA POLO
THE PROTAGONIST IN OUR STORY

PLATE-NINE

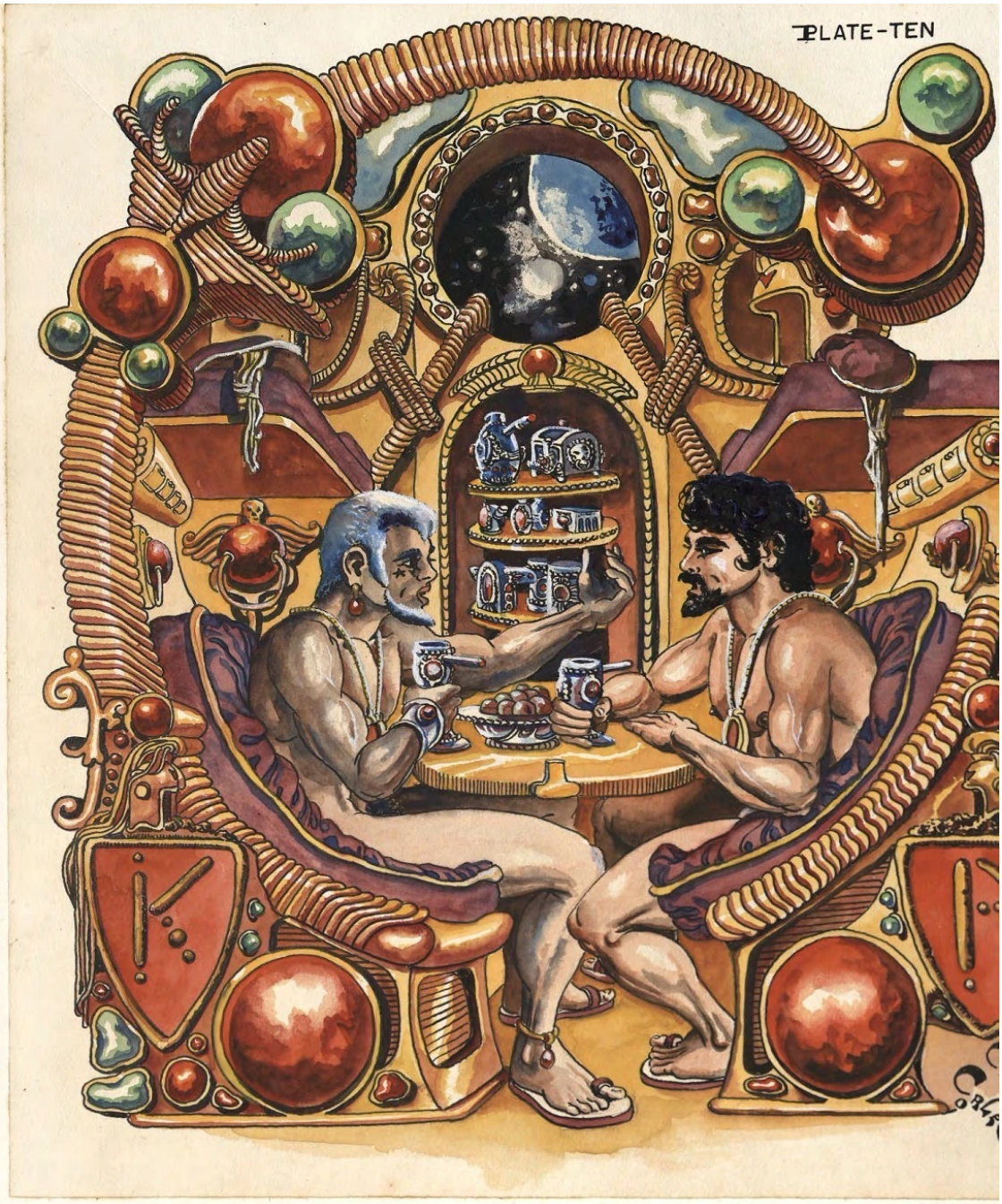
INTERLUDE_

AS I SCRIBED, THOUGH TIGA WAS NOT A BARBARIAN, HIS SEXUAL LUSTS_ SO LIKE HIS EARTHLING FATHER_WAS TO THE EXTREME, ALMOST BESTIAL IN POWER AND FEROCITY. THERE WAS A VOCIFEROUS FIRE IN HIS LOINS NEVER QUITE QUINCHED, A VOLCANIC FLAME SUBDUED ONLY BY THE CLIMAXING FURY EBBED IN HIS FRANTIC PURSUIT OF SEX.

NOW, FOR HIS STORY___

CARL ORLEC

PLATE-TEN



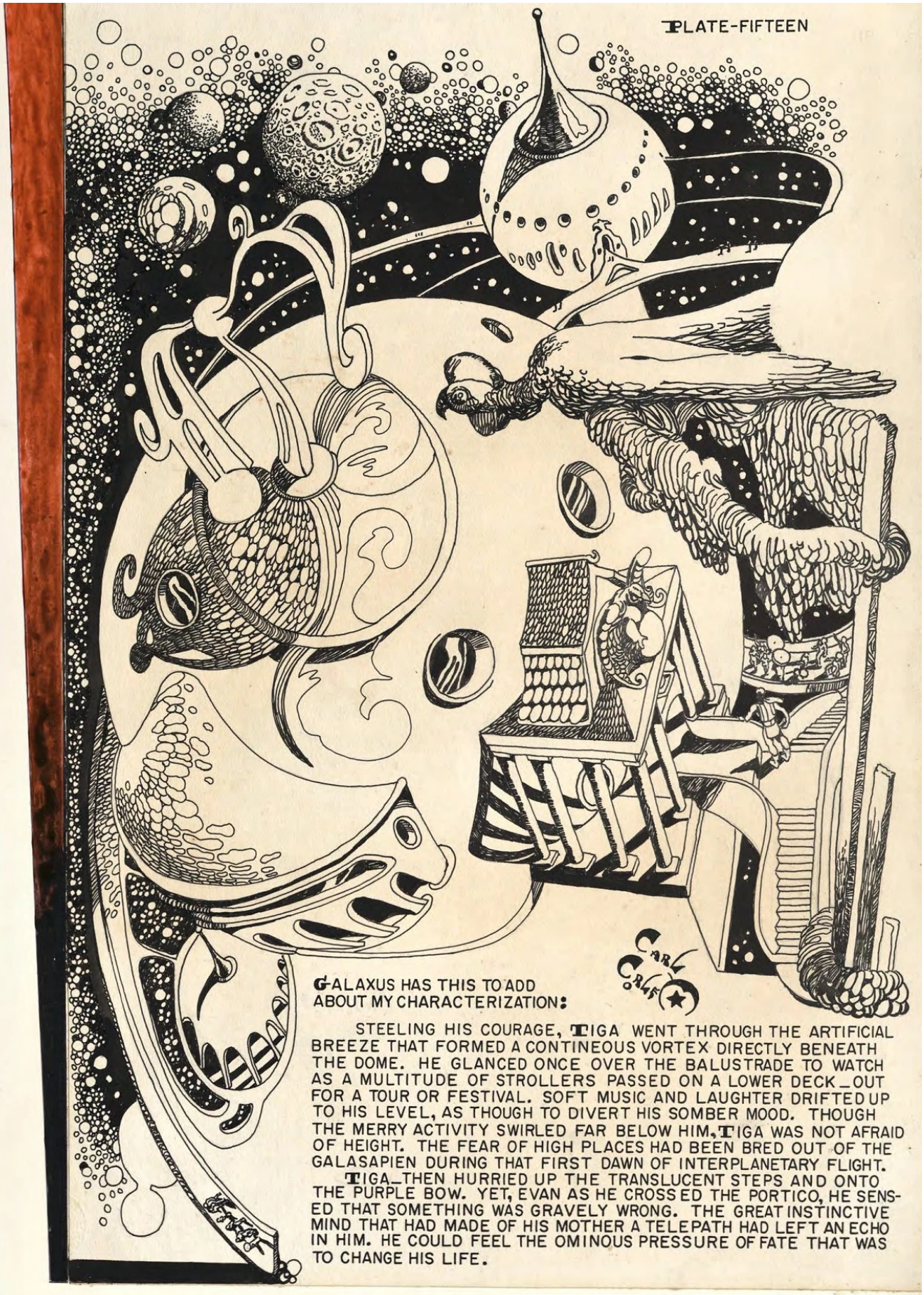
"HO--TIGA BOY! WAKE UP! YOU BHANGED ON SYRUP? THAT'S YOUR OLD MAN--ON AUDIO!"

"DAD? WOW! THEN--THAT WAS **HIS** FIGHTER WOBBLING INTO--PORT!"

CARL ORLE
KIEV AFTON
TIGA'S ASTRA-CADET CO-SCOUT

PLATE-TWELVE
WITH KEIV THAT AWESOME DAY, LISTENING TO THE STATIC SOUNDS OF MY FATHER'S RASPING VOICE OVER AUDIO AND AWARE OF WHAT THAT SOUND IMPLIED, I VALUED HIS FRIENDSHIP MORE THAN AT ANY TIME DURING OUR TEEN-LIFE TOGETHER. AND I SWIFTLY RECALLED HOW MANY THE TIME WE HAD SAFARIED THE FORBIDDEN CATACOMBS OF THE "SOLO COLOSSO" IN SEARCH OF STRANGE FEMALES TO SEDUCE!

PLATE-FIFTEEN



GALAXUS HAS THIS TO ADD ABOUT MY CHARACTERIZATION:

STEELING HIS COURAGE, TIGA WENT THROUGH THE ARTIFICIAL BREEZE THAT FORMED A CONTINEOUS VORTEX DIRECTLY BENEATH THE DOME. HE GLANCED ONCE OVER THE BALUSTRADE TO WATCH AS A MULTITUDE OF STROLLERS PASSED ON A LOWER DECK_OUT FOR A TOUR OR FESTIVAL. SOFT MUSIC AND LAUGHTER DRIFTED UP TO HIS LEVEL, AS THOUGH TO DIVERT HIS SOMBER MOOD. THOUGH THE MERRY ACTIVITY SWIRLED FAR BELOW HIM, TIGA WAS NOT AFRAID OF HEIGHT. THE FEAR OF HIGH PLACES HAD BEEN BRED OUT OF THE GALASAPIEN DURING THAT FIRST DAWN OF INTERPLANETARY FLIGHT.

TIGA_THEN HURRIED UP THE TRANSLUCENT STEPS AND ONTO THE PURPLE BOW. YET, EVAN AS HE CROSSED THE PORTICO, HE SENSED THAT SOMETHING WAS GRAVELY WRONG. THE GREAT INSTINCTIVE MIND THAT HAD MADE OF HIS MOTHER A TELEPATH HAD LEFT AN ECHO IN HIM. HE COULD FEEL THE OMINOUS PRESSURE OF FATE THAT WAS TO CHANGE HIS LIFE.

PLATE-THIRTEEN
TAKING ABRUPT LEAVE OF KIEV AFTON, I BEGAN TO RUN. AVOIDING THE CROWDS AROUND THE ELEVATORS, I MOUNTED THE AERIAL BRIDGEWAYS THAT WEBBED THE METROPOLITAN STRUCTURES. I RAN AT FULL PACE, MY SOUL IN MY FEET!"

PLATE-FOURTEEN
AT LAST, I CAME OUT ON THE TOR OF THE GREAT DOME. BEFORE ME, IN ALL ITS WHITE SPLENDOR, ROSE THE SHARP IMAGE OF HOME--HOME FOR AS LONG AS I COULD REMEMBER--AN ARCHITECTURAL DREAM MY FATHER HAD DESIGNED TO REMIND HIM OF THE PALATIAL MANSIONS ON HIS SOUTHERN EARTH. AT THE SCENE, AND WHAT IT CONJURED WITHIN ME, I PAUSED, OUT OF BREATH, AND DEEP HEART-PAINS STABBED MY SIDE.
CARL CRLE

PLATE-SIXTEEN
ENTERING THE FOYER, I DISCOVERED— TO MY MUCH NEEDED RELIEF— THAT GALAXUS, MY FATHER'S OLD STANDBY, WAS ALREADY THERE, STRICKEN WITH GRIEF, BUT READY TO SERVE.
"GO QUICK--TIGA
YOUR FATHER HAS BE
WOUNDED--AND IS DY
THE TERRIBLE JADES
QUICK! QUICK!"

PLATE-SEVENTEEN

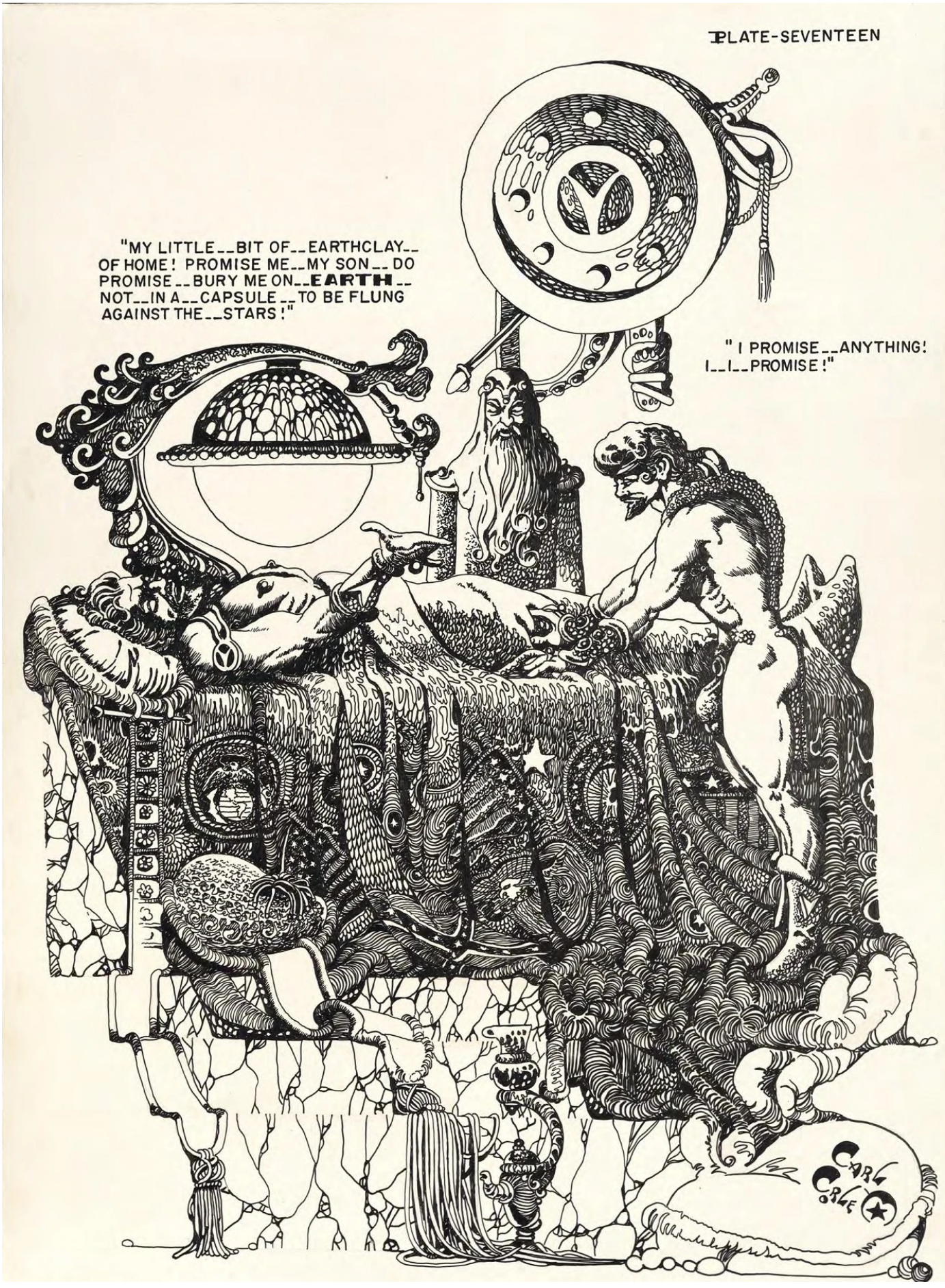


PLATE-EIGHTEEN

PLATE-NINETEEN

IN AGONY, MY MEMORY BANK BECAME AS VIVID AS A MONELMETAL MIRROR, AND RECALLING RETREATED ME BACK TO THAT ESSENTIAL AND CEREMONIAL RITUAL WHEN AN ARTIST ETCHED A TINY STAR BELOW MY EYE _ A PERMANANT MARK ON ALL GALASAPIENS BORN IN THE BLACK, STELLAR VACUUM. AS ALWAYS, DAD WAS THERE BESIDE ME (MY MOTHER WAS DEAD, EXECUTED FOR HER CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE) A RAMPART BETWEEN ME AND LIFE, GUARDIAN AND PROTECTOR.

PLATE-TWENTY
I RECALLED ALSO THE HAPPY TIMES AWAITING HIS RETURN FROM PATROL ATTACK MISSIONS AGAINST OUR ARCHFIEND, THE AWESOME JADE, AND THE JOY I FELT, TINGED WITH RELIEF, WHEN I SPOTTED HIS FIGHTER SWIRLING INTO THE EMBARKATION DROME. NOW--NEVER AGAIN!

PLATE-TWENTY ONE

AN EXPLANATION ABOUT THE ACADEMY—FROM OLD GALAXUS:

TO FURTHER TIGA'S BLOSSOMING MANHOOD, TO PREPARE HIM FOR THE HERO'S ROLE—*WHATEVER THAT WAS*—WHICH HIS FATHER EXPECTED OF HIM, AND HAD EXPECTED OF HIM SINCE BIRTH, TIGA HAD JOINED THE CORPS OF ASTRAL CADETS AT THE EARLIEST AGE POSSIBLE—THE AGE OF PUBERTY.

FOR EVERY YOUNG MALE WITH ANY GRIT AND PHYSICAL GENEALOGY AT ALL, WHO WAS ENDOWED WITH A ROBUST PHYSIQUE, HAD TALENT AND A FLARE FOR TRAVEL AND INTRIGUE, THE ASPIRATION TO BECOME AN ASTRAL CADET WAS A CRAZE EVER CONSTANT.

THE CORPS OF ASTRAL CADETS WAS THE GREATEST MILITARY ORGANIZATION—IN NUMBER ALONE—THAN ANY OF THE CELESTIAL ARMIES IN THE MAPPED UNIVERSE. AND THERE WERE MANY SUCH, WITH THE EXCEPTION, PERHAPS, OF THE MASSED FORCES OF THE HATED *JADES*—ARCH-FIENDS OF EVERY CIVILIZED GALAXY IN THE COSMOS.

ASTRAL CADET LIFE WAS HARD, SEVERALLY DISCIPLINED, CRUEL, SAVAGE, AND MASOCHISTIC—AS EVERY NOVICE CADET WAS QUICK TO REALIZE. BUT TIGA TOOK TO IT LIKE A FLAME IN OXYGEN, DUE MAINLY BECAUSE HIS FATHER HAD SPRANG FROM GENERATIONS OF MILITARY MEN ON THE PLANET EARTH, AND HE HAD NATURALLY FOLLOWED IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS—LIKE THE FIERY TAIL OF A COMET BENT ON A FIXED DESTINATION.

PLATE-TWENTY-
DURING THE PERPLEXED, LOST, SLEEPLESS MAW FOLLOWING DAD'S DECEASE, I BADGERED OLD GALAXUS INTO ELABORATING MORE ON THE LIFE OF THIS MALE (MY FATHER) WHO HAD, LONG AGO, CROSSED THAT SHORELESS OCEAN OF SPACE TO SPAWN ME INTO EXISTENCE!
"IT IS A WONDER, TIGA, THAT YOU WERE EVER SPAWNED AT ALL, CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT YOUR FATHER WAS SO PREOCCUPIED WITH THE MARVELS OF THE UNIVERSE, UNTIL ONE LEARNS JUST HOW MUCH HIS SEXUAL HUNGERS GNAWED AT HIS PROFESSIONAL CREATIVITY. HE SERVICED MANY FEMALES WHO IN RETURN SUPPLIED SEXUAL GOURMETS__ POSSESSING THEM ALL, BUT NONE POSSESSING HIM."
CARL CORLEY

PLATE-TWENTY TWO

NOW, DRY-EYED, THOUGH TORN ASUNDER WITH GRIEF, I AM A FULL-GROWN MALE, MY CALLOW AGE BEHIND ME, ARMED NOW AND FORTIFIED TO FACE THE FUTURE--MY LEGACY TO HIM---

A BRIEF SKETCH ABOUT MY EARLIER YOUTH FROM MY OLD MAINSTAY, GALAXUS--I STILL HAVE HIM--MY GUIDE, WIZARD, AND READER OF THE STARS:

THOUGH TIGA POLO HAD ENCOUNTERED NUMEROUS PLANETS DURING HIS HABITATION ABOARD THE *SAGA ARK*, HE HAD NEVER SET FOOT ON PLANETARY SOIL. BEING AN ASTRAL CADET, IT WAS AGAINST MILITARY RULES TO GO ASHORE EXCEPT IN A CASE WHERE HOSTILE ENCOUNTERS DEMANDED IT. TOO, CADETS WERE NOT PERMITTED TO FRATERNIZE WITH ALIEN FEMALES.

TIGA HAD NEVER BREATHED NATURE'S OXYGEN, NOR ENDURED NATURAL ELEMENTS: RAIN, WINDS, STORMS, SNOW AND ICE. HE HAD NEVER ENJOYED THE PRISTINE GLORY OF A BLUE SKY, CLOUDS, A RAINBOW, OR A SUNSET. HE HAD NEVE SEEN A TREE, FLOWERS, ROCKS, MOUNTIANS, LAKES NOR OCEANS. EVERY OBJECT AND ARTICLE OF HIS EVERY DAY SPAN OF LIFE WAS OF HOMO-SAPIEN MANUFACTURE. OUR HERO EXISTED IN A COLOSSAL, METAL WORLD, AN ARTIFICIAL PLANET, A PERFECT ENVIRONMENT, FREE OF CONTAMINATION AND DISEASE.

PLATE-TWENTY

"BUT--BEFORE WE EMBARK ON THE TRIUMPHANT ADVENTURES OF YOUR FATHER, TIGALEE, LET US RETRACT TO THE ERA THAT BELONGS TO YOUR GRANDFATHER, TIGA SCOTT POLO--INITIAL PIONEER OF SPACE TRAVEL ON YOUR ADOPTED FATHERLAND, THE PLANET EARTH--WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE FOR YOUR FATHER TO CUT ALL BONDS GROUNDING HIM TO HIS NATIVITY AND ON TO OTHER INHABITED WORLDS."

"FIRSTLY--SPACE EXPLORATION CAME SLOW ON EARTH, QUINCHED FOR CENTURIES BY RELIGIOUS DOGMA. WITH A CREW OF THREE TIGASCOTT POLO MANAGED TO REACH THE PLANET'S ONE MOON. ONE OF THAT CREW WAS FEMALE!"

CARL GAFF

PLATE-TWENTY SIX

PLATE-TWE
"IT SEEMS THAT YOUR GRANDFATHER--OR, ALL MALES ON THAT PRIMITIVE PLANET--FOR SOME UNKNOWN BESTIAL URGE, POSSESSED AN INSATIABLE CRAVING FOR SEX. THOUGH THERE IS NO RECORD, IT IS CERTAIN TIGASCOTT POLO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FEMALE ASTRONAUT TO SATISFY HIS SEXUAL APPETITE DURING THE MOON EXPLORATION VOYAGE."

PLATE-TWENTY SEVEN
" TIGA POLO! BY HAND OF THE GODS! THERE IS SUCH A THING AS CONTROL OVER BODY CHEMISTRY AND BRAIN AURORA. SUCH PRIMITIVE URGES WERE BRED OUT OF THE GALASAPIENS AEONS AGO--BUT--BACK TO MY STORY.
THE MOON'S FEROCIOUS TEMPERATURE, YOUR GRANDFATHER'S VAST AGE, AND SEXUAL PASSIONS, COMBINED WITH HEART FAILURE, SAPPED HIS STRENGTH. THOUGH A PHYSICAL SPECIMAN, HE DIED THERE--NEVER TO RETURN TO THE PLANET THAT GAVE HIM LIFE.
THE TWO SURVIVORS, YOUNG, VITAL, IN TURN RELAYED DISTRESS SIGNALS TO EARTH, BUT HELP NEVER CAME. SURELY THEN-- THEY CALLED ON THEIR GOD !"
CARL

PLATE-TWENTY
USA
"THE FIRST MOON FLIGHT--A TOTAL FIASCO-- CAUSED UNTOLD DELAY FOR FUTURE EXPLORATION, MAINLY OUT OF FEAR. HOWEVER, AT THAT TIME YOUR FATHER, INSPIRED BY TIGASCOTT POLO, PICKED UP THE STELLARTORCH WITH FANATIC COURAGE.
HIS TEEN YEAR
WERE SPENT NORM
ENOUGH, AND HIS Y
AMBITIONS ECHOED
FATHER'S GREAT DE
FOR PHYSICAL AND
MENTAL FITNESS."
CARL ORLE

PLATE-TWENTY NINE
"IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE SAME GOD OF SEX WHOM SMOTE YOUR GRANDFATHER--THE HARLOT-MONGER-- STRUCK TIGALEE ALSO WITH HIS MIGHTY PRONG.
NO OFFENSE TO YOUR FATHER, FOR I LOVED HIM DEARLY, BUT HE BRAGGED TO ME ONCE THAT AT AN EARLY AGE HE SEDUCED WITLESS VIRGINS AND FREQUENTED BROTHELS OF ILL-REPUTE."
CARL CORLE

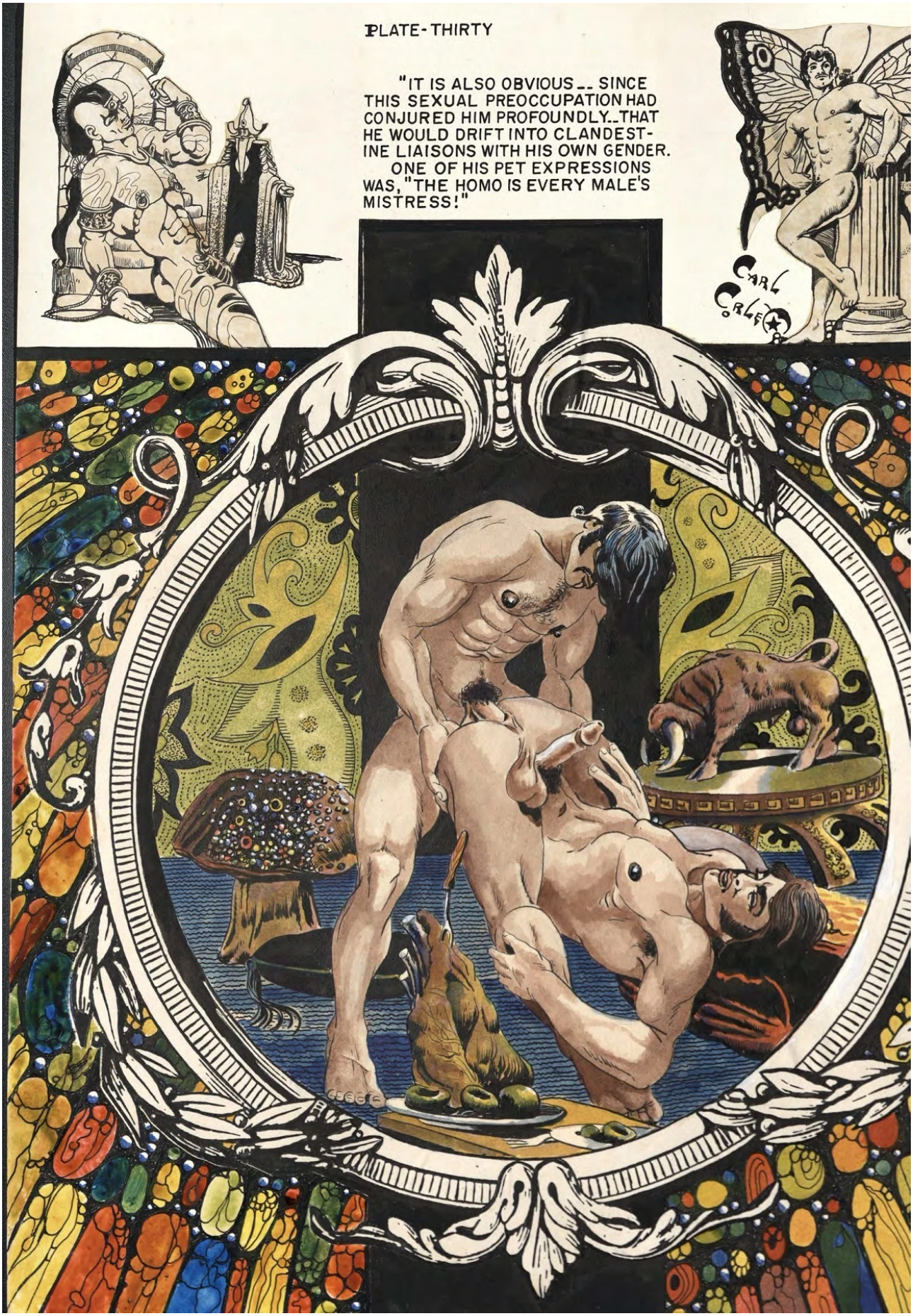


PLATE-THIRTY
"IT IS ALSO OBVIOUS -- SINCE THIS SEXUAL PREOCCUPATION HAD CONJURED HIM PROFOUNDLY--THAT HE WOULD DRIFT INTO CLANDESTINE LIAISONS WITH HIS OWN GENDER.
ONE OF HIS PET EXPRESSIONS WAS, "THE HOMO IS EVERY MALE'S MISTRESS!"
CARL CORLEO

PLATE-THIRTY ONE
"WHATEVER IMPERFECTIONS TIGALEE EXPERIENCED DURING HIS PRIVATE LIFESTYLE--HIS ABSORPTIONS WITH SEX-- HE DID BALANCE THAT INCOMPLETION OF PERSONALITY WITH HIS WORK, AND AN AMBITION TO FOLLOW IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS--- TO SUCCEED IN THE CONQUEST OF SPACE-FLIGHT WHERE HIS FATHER HAD FAILED."
"EVERY INCH OF THE SHIP IS IN-SPECTED. EVERY BOLT, WIRE, SCREW AND CONNECTION IS GIVEN PREPAR-ATORY SCRUTINY.
IT WOULD BE INEXPIABLE SHOULD SUCH AN EXPEDITION FAIL THROUGH HUMAN CARELESS-NESS."
CARL CORLE

PLATE-THIRTY TWO
MASTERING THE SCIENCES ESSENTIAL FOR SPACE FLIGHT— MECHANICS, ELECTRONICS, OPTICS, CHEMISTRY, ASTRO-PHYSICS, AERODYNAMICS, MINERALOGY, AND METALLURGY.
"MIND YOU, TIGA, YOUR DAD LEFT NO STONES UNTURNED DURING THOSE LAST DAYS OF PREPARATION TO LAUNCH A SECOND CRAFT FROM EARTH TO MOON---
---REMEMBER, THE PLANET EARTH IS FRESH-BORN, UNLIKE OUR MOTHER PLANET_TARA-HALLA_THAT HAD CONQUERED INNER-STELLAR FLIGHT BACK DURING THE FIRST MILLENNIUM OF INTELLIGENT LIFE. EARTH THEN WAS BUT A GRAIN OF DUST IN A STAR-NOVA!"
AT LAST THE MAJESTIC SPACE CRAFT STANDS TO THE READY, THE STAINLESS STEEL HULL GLEAMING IN THE HANGER'S HALF LIGHT.
THE EARTH'S SCIENCE HAS BUILT WELL.
CARL GALE

PLATE-THIRTY THREE

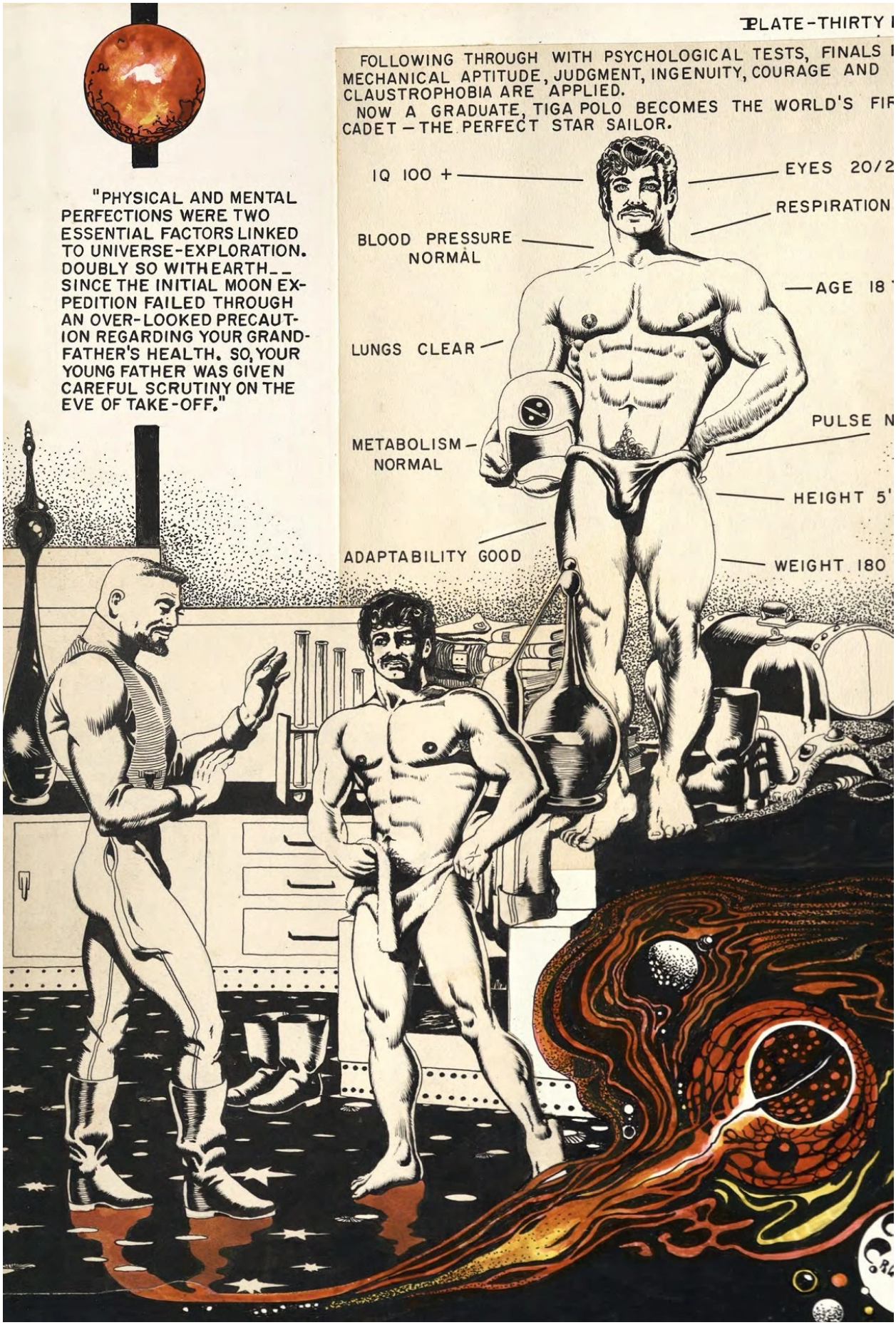


PLATE-THIRTY
FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS, FINALS
MECHANICAL APTITUDE, JUDGMENT, INGENUITY, COURAGE AND
CLAUSTROPHOBIA ARE APPLIED.
NOW A GRADUATE, TIGA POLO BECOMES THE WORLD'S FIR
CADET — THE PERFECT STAR SAILOR.
"PHYSICAL AND MENTAL PERFECTIONS WERE TWO ESSENTIAL FACTORS LINKED TO UNIVERSE-EXPLORATION. DOUBLY SO WITH EARTH— SINCE THE INITIAL MOON EXPEDITION FAILED THROUGH AN OVER-LOOKED PRECAUTION REGARDING YOUR GRANDFATHER'S HEALTH. SO, YOUR YOUNG FATHER WAS GIVEN CAREFUL SCRUTINY ON THE EVE OF TAKE-OFF."
IQ 100 +
EYES 20/2
RESPIRATION
BLOOD PRESSURE NORMAL
AGE 18
LUNGS CLEAR
PULSE N
METABOLISM — NORMAL
HEIGHT 5'
ADAPTABILITY GOOD
WEIGHT 180

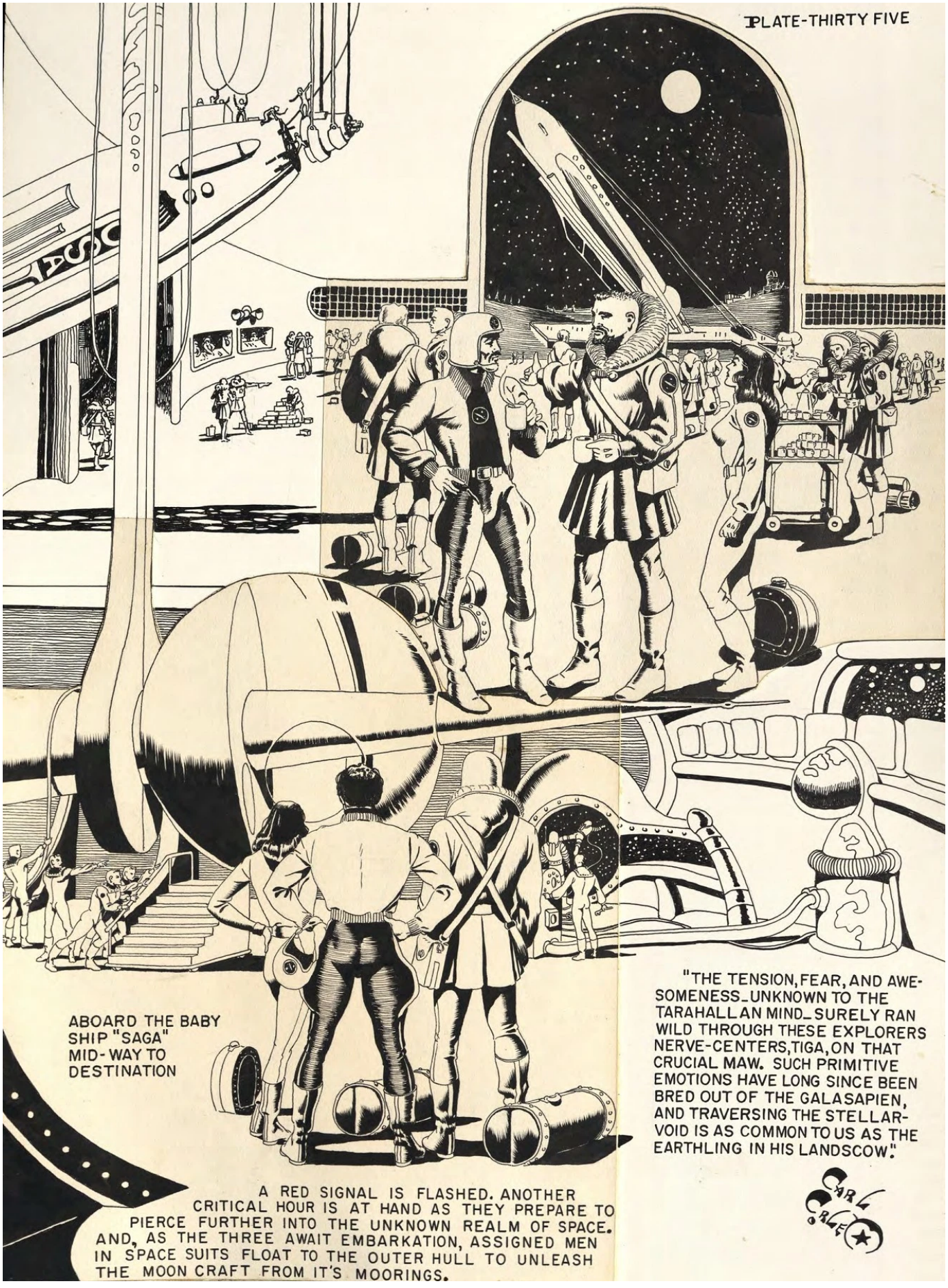


PLATE-THIRTY FIVE
ABOARD THE BABY SHIP "SAGA" MID-WAY TO DESTINATION
"THE TENSION, FEAR, AND AWE-SOMENESS_UNKNOWN TO THE TARAHALL AN MIND_SURELY RAN WILD THROUGH THESE EXPLORERS NERVE-CENTERS, TIGA, ON THAT CRUCIAL MAW. SUCH PRIMITIVE EMOTIONS HAVE LONG SINCE BEEN BRED OUT OF THE GALASAPIEN, AND TRAVERSING THE STELLAR-VOID IS AS COMMON TO US AS THE EARTHLING IN HIS LANDSCOW."
A RED SIGNAL IS FLASHED. ANOTHER CRITICAL HOUR IS AT HAND AS THEY PREPARE TO PIERCE FURTHER INTO THE UNKNOWN REALM OF SPACE. AND, AS THE THREE AWAIT EMBARKATION, ASSIGNED MEN IN SPACE SUITS FLOAT TO THE OUTER HULL TO UNLEASH THE MOON CRAFT FROM IT'S MOORINGS.
CARL CARLE

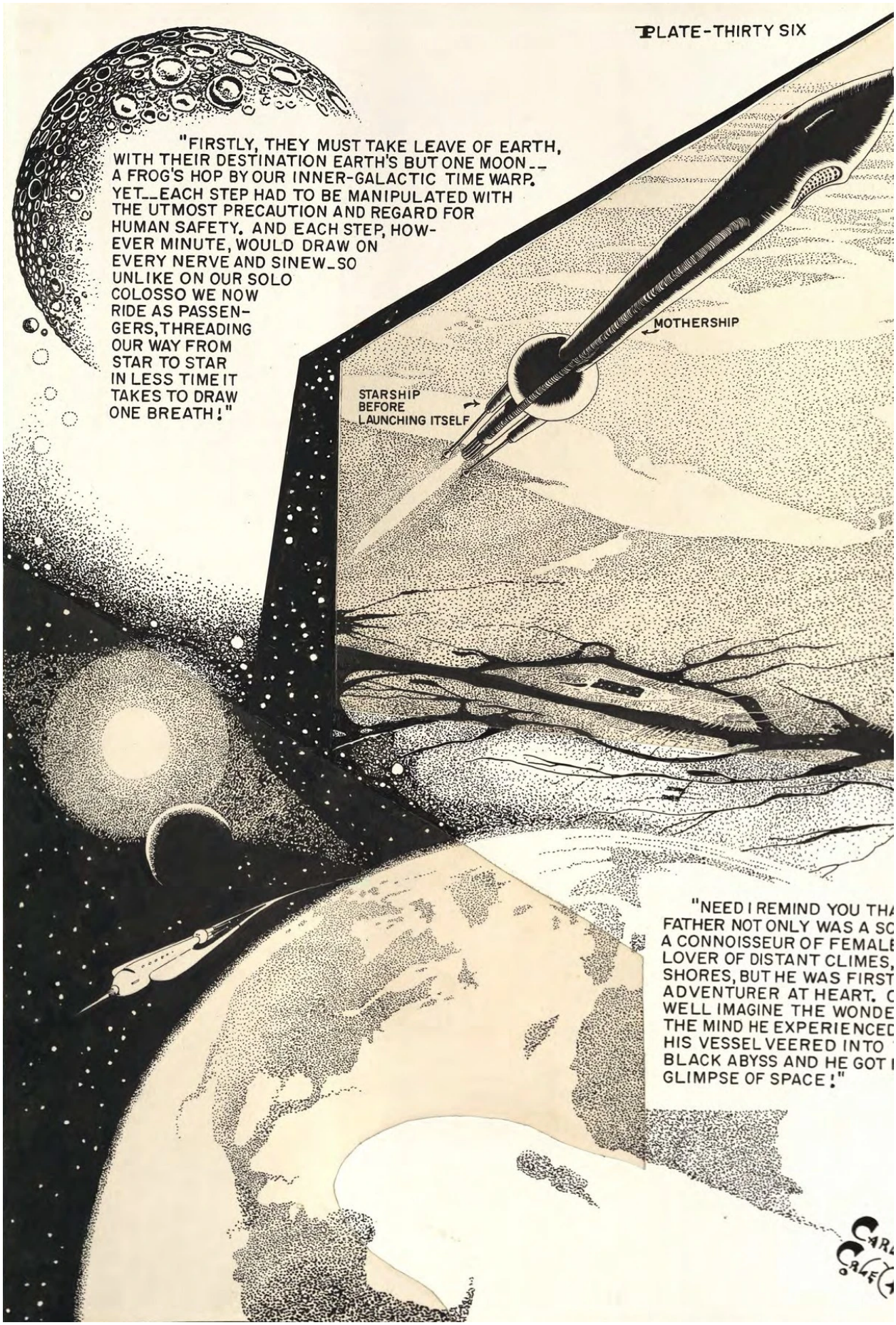


PLATE-THIRTY SIX
"FIRSTLY, THEY MUST TAKE LEAVE OF EARTH, WITH THEIR DESTINATION EARTH'S BUT ONE MOON-- A FROG'S HOP BY OUR INNER-GALACTIC TIME WARP. YET--EACH STEP HAD TO BE MANIPULATED WITH THE UTMOST PRECAUTION AND REGARD FOR HUMAN SAFETY. AND EACH STEP, HOWEVER MINUTE, WOULD DRAW ON EVERY NERVE AND SINEW-SO UNLIKE ON OUR SOLO COLOSSO WE NOW RIDE AS PASSENGERS, THREADING OUR WAY FROM STAR TO STAR IN LESS TIME IT TAKES TO DRAW ONE BREATH!"
MOTHERSHIP
STARSHIP BEFORE LAUNCHING ITSELF
"NEED I REMIND YOU THA
FATHER NOT ONLY WAS A SC
A CONNOISSEUR OF FEMALE
LOVER OF DISTANT CLIMES,
SHORES, BUT HE WAS FIRST
ADVENTURER AT HEART. C
WELL IMAGINE THE WONDE
THE MIND HE EXPERIENCED
HIS VESSEL VEERED INTO
BLACK ABYSS AND HE GOT
GLIMPSE OF SPACE!"

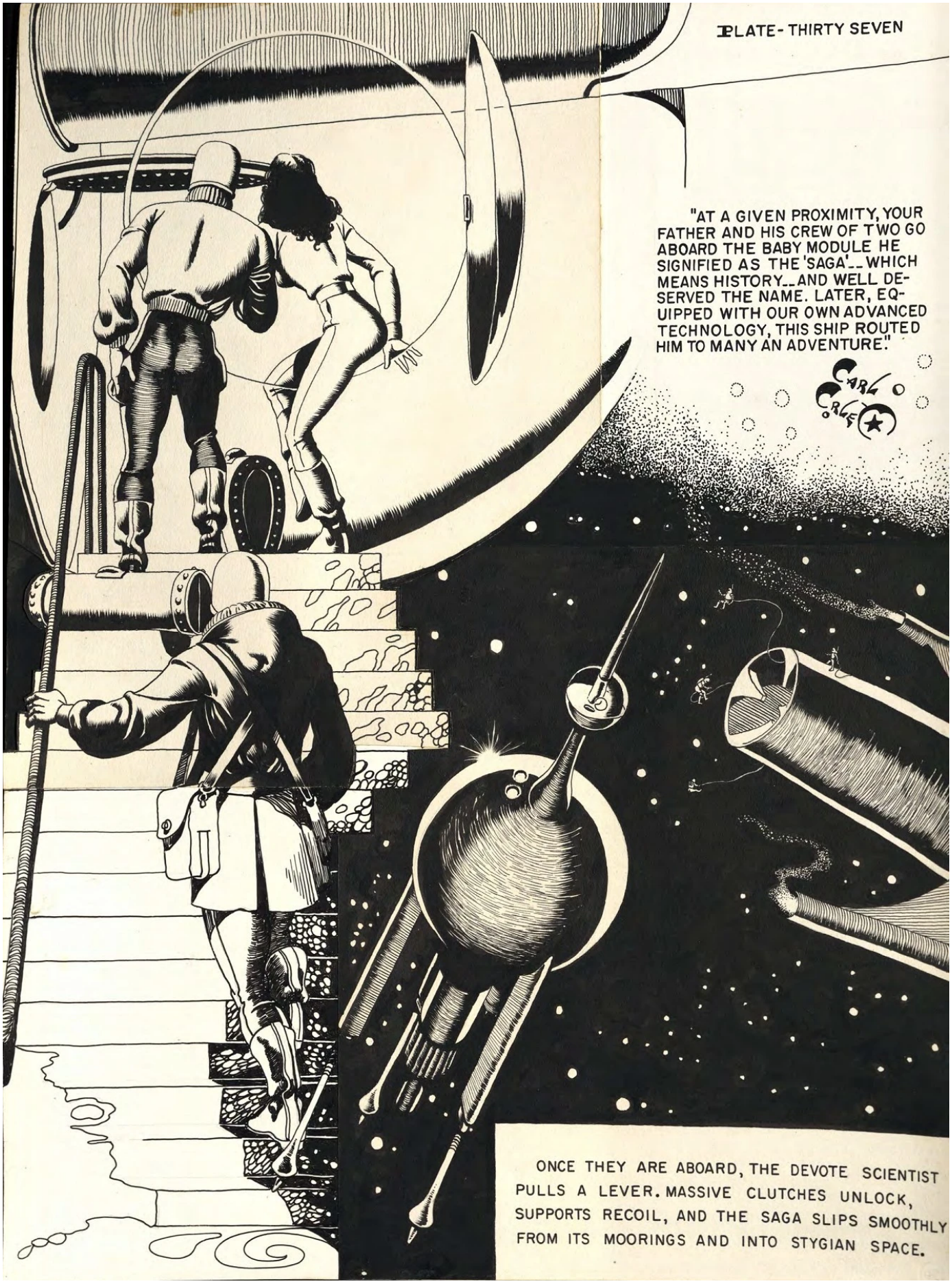


PLATE- THIRTY SEVEN
"AT A GIVEN PROXIMITY, YOUR FATHER AND HIS CREW OF TWO GO ABOARD THE BABY MODULE HE SIGNIFIED AS THE 'SAGA'-- WHICH MEANS HISTORY-- AND WELL DESERVED THE NAME. LATER, EQUIPPED WITH OUR OWN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, THIS SHIP ROUTED HIM TO MANY AN ADVENTURE."
CARL O CRLE
ONCE THEY ARE ABOARD, THE DEVOTE SCIENTIST PULLS A LEVER. MASSIVE CLUTCHES UNLOCK, SUPPORTS RECOIL, AND THE SAGA SLIPS SMOOTHLY FROM ITS MOORINGS AND INTO STYGIAN SPACE.

PLATE-THIRTY

IN OUTER SPACE WEIGHTLESSNESS IS ENCOUNTERED. THER
PERPETUAL GRAVITATIONAL FORCE HAS BEEN INSTALLED E
FLOORING SO THAT THE CREW CAN MANIPULATE UNDER NATU
CONDITIONS. LEA DANCES TO RADIO MUSIC FROM EARTH.

"LIKE YOUR AMOROUS GRANDFATHER, YOUR FATHER USED HIS POLITICAL INFLUENCE TO HAVE A **FEMALE** RECRUITED FOR THE MOON VOYAGE. THOUGH HIS REQUEST WAS GRANTED, DESPITE OPPOSITION, AND THAT HIS REASON WAS TO TEST THE BIOLOGICAL REACTIONS OF THE FEMALE IN AIRLESS SPACE, IT WAS OBVIOUS, KNOWING YOUR FATHER AS I DID, THAT HIS OBJECTIVE WAS NOT FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES."

PLATE-THIRTY NINE

"THE FEMALE WAS FOR BIOLOGICAL REACTIONS ALL RIGHT!"

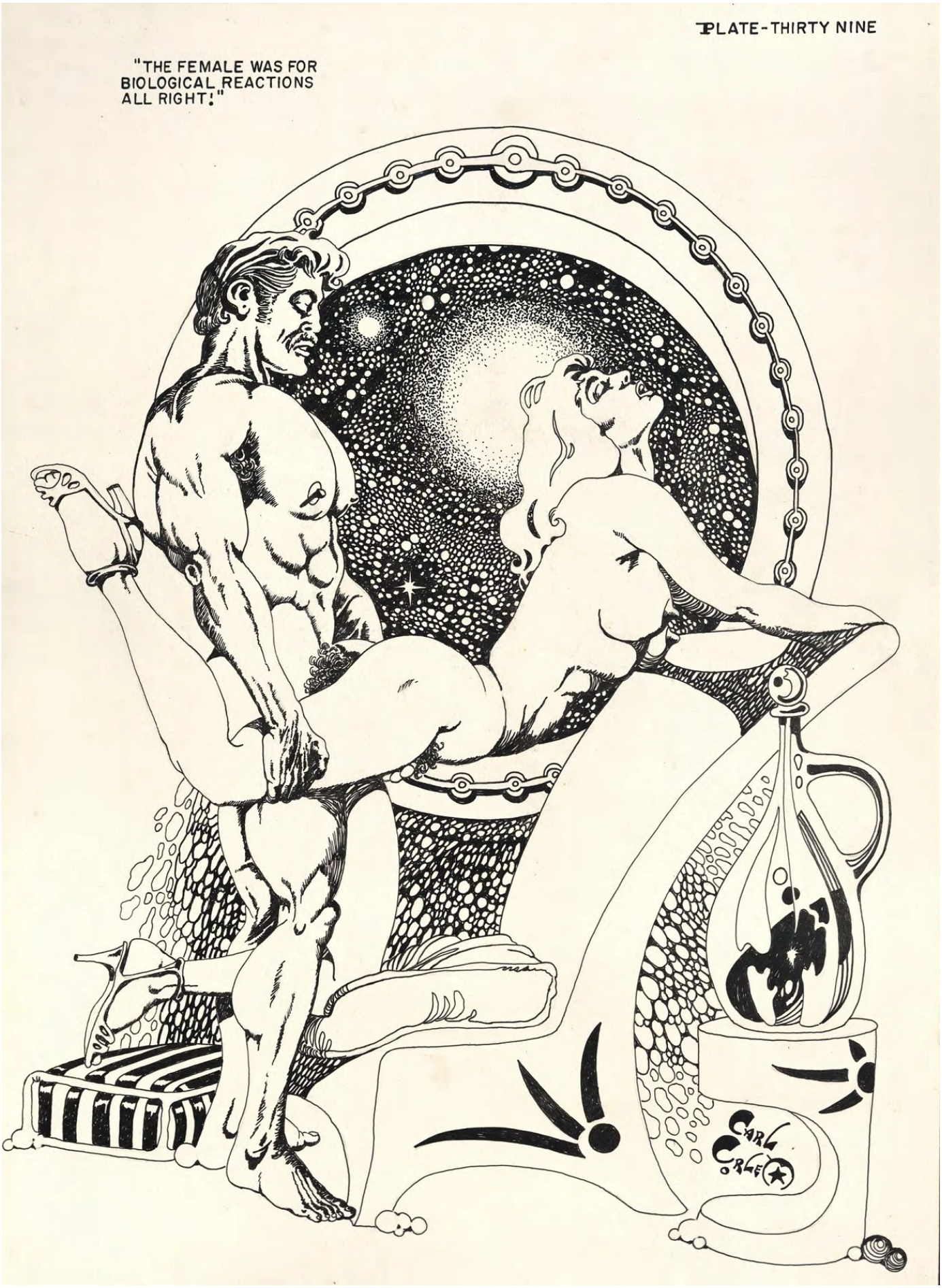


PLATE-FORTY
"DESPITE YOUR FATHER'S WEAKNESS FOR SEX, HE WAS POSSESSED BY AN ADJUDICATION TO SUCCEED PHYSICALLY WHERE HIS FATHER HAD FAILED DUE TO HIS DISREGARDING SOMATIC DEMANDS ESSENTIAL TO A STELLAR VOYAGER IN ALIEN CLIMES."
DURING PERIODS OF REST WHEN HE IS ALONE WITH HIS OWN PERSONAL THOUGHTS AND DREAMS, TIGA PONDERS OVER HIS GREAT LOVE OF PHYSICAL PERFECTION AND STRENGTH.

PLATE-FORTY ONE

PLATE-FORTY TV
"HE BEGAN THIS MOMENTOUS VOLUME WITH THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN LIFE ON HIS HOME PLANET, THEN BROADENED ITS HORIZON BY FROG-LEAPING FROM EARTH, THEN ONTO OTHER WORLDS. IT IS YOURS NOW FOR THE KEEPING, MASTER TIGA POLO. I GATHER THAT YOU WILL SYPHON FROM IT THE WISDOM AND JOY YOUR FATHER HAS PUT INTO IT--THEN BESTOW IT UPON YOUR SONS---."

PLATE-FORTY THREE
"BUT--BEFORE THE MOON DESTINATION, AND YOUR FATHER COULD DEDICATE MORE TIME TO HIS HISTORICAL MASTERPIECE, LAST MINUTE PREPARATIONS LAY TO THE FORE---
"DR GARBO, CHIEF NAVIGATOR, GIVE LAST INSTRUCT-IONS--
LATER, HE DRAWS TIGA POLO TO ONE SIDE WHERE HE UNLOCKS A WALL SAFE. "HERE IN THESE LEATHER CASES ARE A BOOK OF FORMULAS AND THE BIBLE. IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO ME, TAKE THEM AND GUARD THEM WITH YOUR LIFE. THEY WILL HELP TO GET YOU AND LEA HOME."
CARL ORLEF

PLATE-FORTY FO

HE REVEALS TO HIS YOUNG STUDENT EV
MECHANICAL PURPOSE OF THE SPACE
"THE SAGA WAS CONSTRUCTED TO BE
FROM THE MOTHER SHIP ONLY AFTER
REACHED THE GRAVITATIONAL FIELD OF
AMBER PLANET, THE OTHER SHIP REM
IN SPACE AS A HOME STATION
SAGA WILL MAKE IT. IF YOU
NOTICE, THIS UPPER HALF R
AND REMAINS UP-RIGHT REG
OF THE SAGA'S POSITION."

"YOUR FATHER REMARKED TO ME THAT--DURING THOSE LAST HOURS BEFORE DISEMBARKATION HE MEMORIZED SO MUCH THAT HE FORGOT EVERY THING ELSE HE HAD EVER LEARNED--SO QUAINT--WHEN ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS PASS OUR HAND ACROSS A LIGHT!"

OBSERVATION GLOBE
STUDY
CONTROL ROOM
LIVING QUARTERS
GALLEY
POWER ROOM. WATER, HEAT, AIR, ICE, ELECTRIC POWER
REFUELING ROCKET ROOM
LABORATORY FIRST AID
PULLEY FOR LOWERING GLOBE
LOCK THAT SECURES UPPER HALF OF SPHERE WHEN REVOLVED
ARMORED TRACTOR
SUPPLIES: TENT, AMMUN FOOD, WEAPONS, CLOTHIN
SPIKES FOR FIRM GROUNDING
ROCKET FUEL
REAR LIGHTING TUBE, BLINKS RED AND GREEN LIGHTS
ROCKET JETS
WALLS OF GLOBE 2 FEET THICKNESS
AVERAGE SIZE MAN COMPARED TO SAGA.

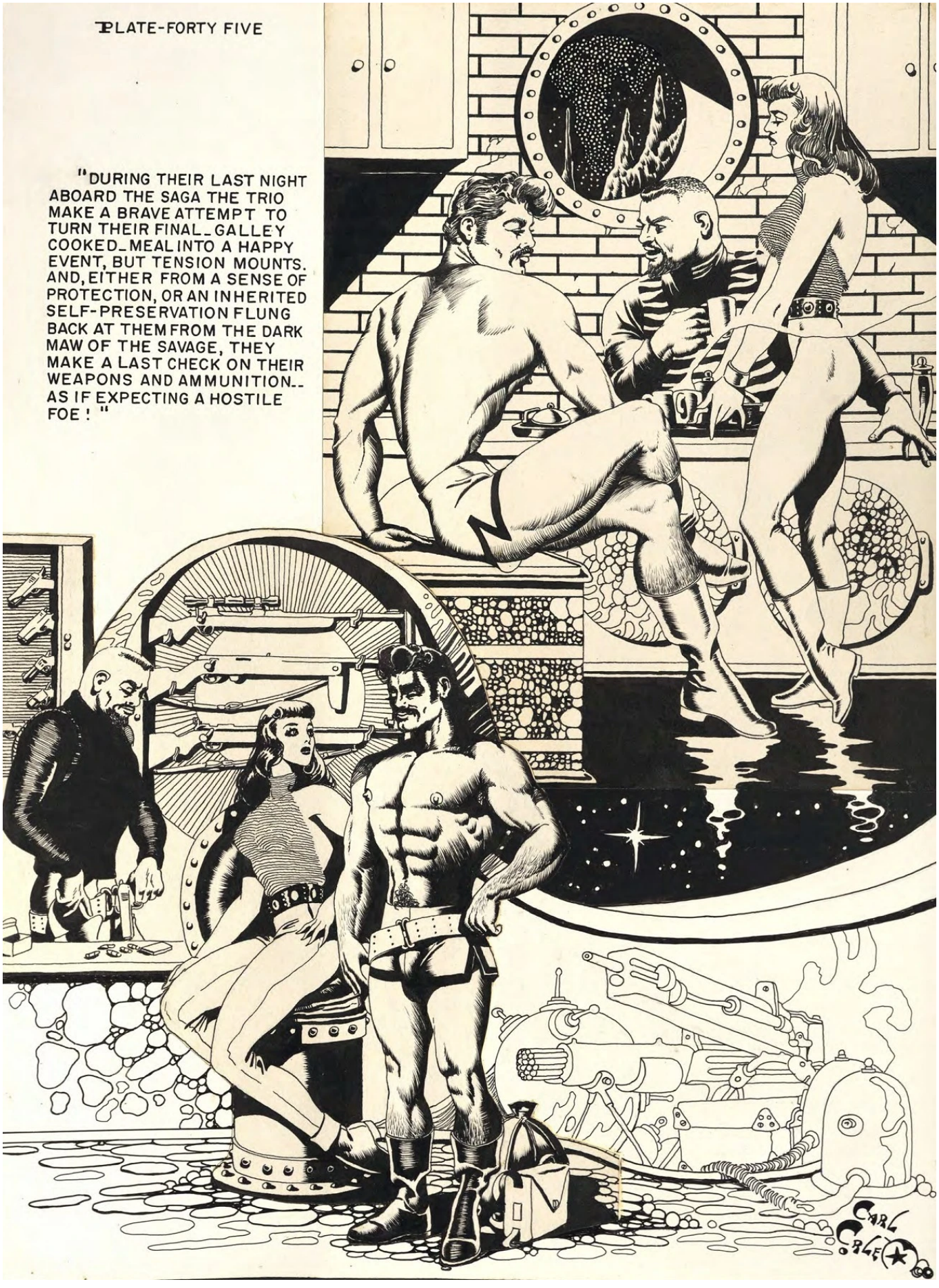


PLATE-FORTY FIVE
"DURING THEIR LAST NIGHT ABOARD THE SAGA THE TRIO MAKE A BRAVE ATTEMPT TO TURN THEIR FINAL-GALLEY COOKED-MEAL INTO A HAPPY EVENT, BUT TENSION MOUNTS. AND, EITHER FROM A SENSE OF PROTECTION, OR AN INHERITED SELF-PRESERVATION FLUNG BACK AT THEM FROM THE DARK MAW OF THE SAVAGE, THEY MAKE A LAST CHECK ON THEIR WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION-- AS IF EXPECTING A HOSTILE FOE!"
CARL CRLE

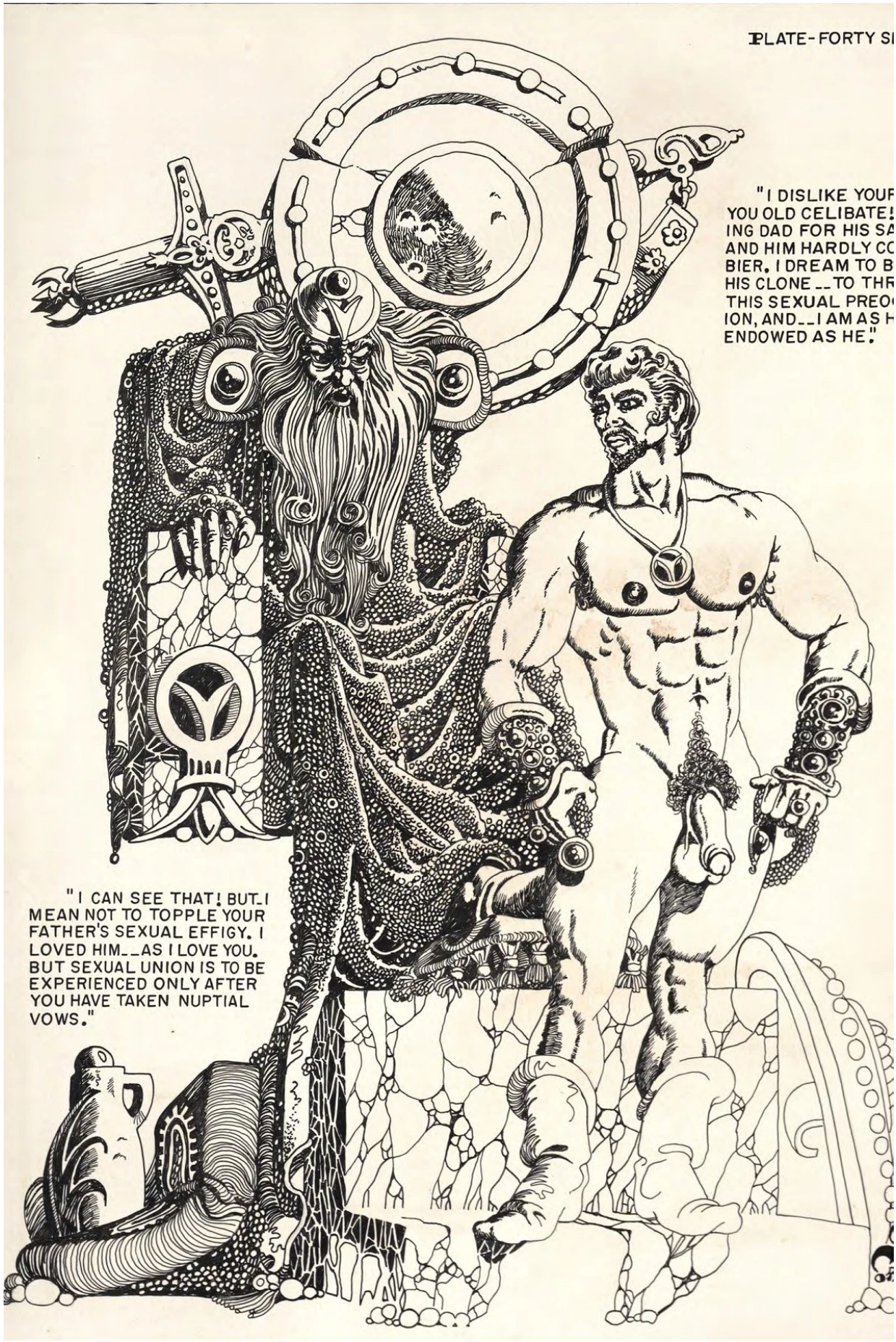


PLATE-FORTY SI
"I DISLIKE YOUR
YOU OLD CELIBATE!
ING DAD FOR HIS SA
AND HIM HARDLY CO
BIER. I DREAM TO B
HIS CLONE--TO THR
THIS SEXUAL PREO
ION, AND--I AM AS H
ENDOWED AS HE."
"I CAN SEE THAT! BUT-I MEAN NOT TO TOPPLE YOUR FATHER'S SEXUAL EFFIGY. I LOVED HIM--AS I LOVE YOU. BUT SEXUAL UNION IS TO BE EXPERIENCED ONLY AFTER YOU HAVE TAKEN NUPTIAL VOWS."

PLATE-FORTY SIX

"OR--WAS IT THEIR LAST MEAL BEFORE DISEMBARKATION--- AND DID YOUR FATHER HAVE HIS OWN WEAPON AND AMMUNITION CHECKED ?

WE WILL NEVER KNOW-- WILL WE -- MY YOUNG AND HANDSOME PROTAGONIST ?"

PLATE - FORTY EI
"SO! -- BEFORE YOU IGNITE FROM AN INFERNAL CASE OF MISJUDGEMENT, ALLOW ME TO ADD FURTHER THAT YOUR SUBHUMAN FATHER DWELLED ON THE MORBID AFFRONTAGE OF EXHIBITIONISM IN THAT HE BOASTED ABOUT HIS SEXUAL CONQUESTS. BUT ALAS -- HE IS GONE NOW!"

PLATE-FORTY NINE
"AS THEY GO ONWARD TIGA'S DESTINY LIES AHEAD ON THE MOON, HOWEVER INEVITABLE. BUT HE IS BOUND TO HIS PAST BY THE SIGHT OF THE EARTH THAT IS BUT A TURQUOISE ORB NOW IN THE LOSTNESS OF SPACE."

PLATE-FIFTY
"MUCH LATER-- WHEN THERE CAME A LULL IN

PLATE-FIFTY ONE
"THE NAVIGATOR TAKES LAST MINUTE CALCULATIONS. THEN SLOWLY, VERY---
SLOWLY, THE SAGA DROPS VERTICALLY AMIDST AN OBST-ACLE OF SPIRES."
CARL CORLEY

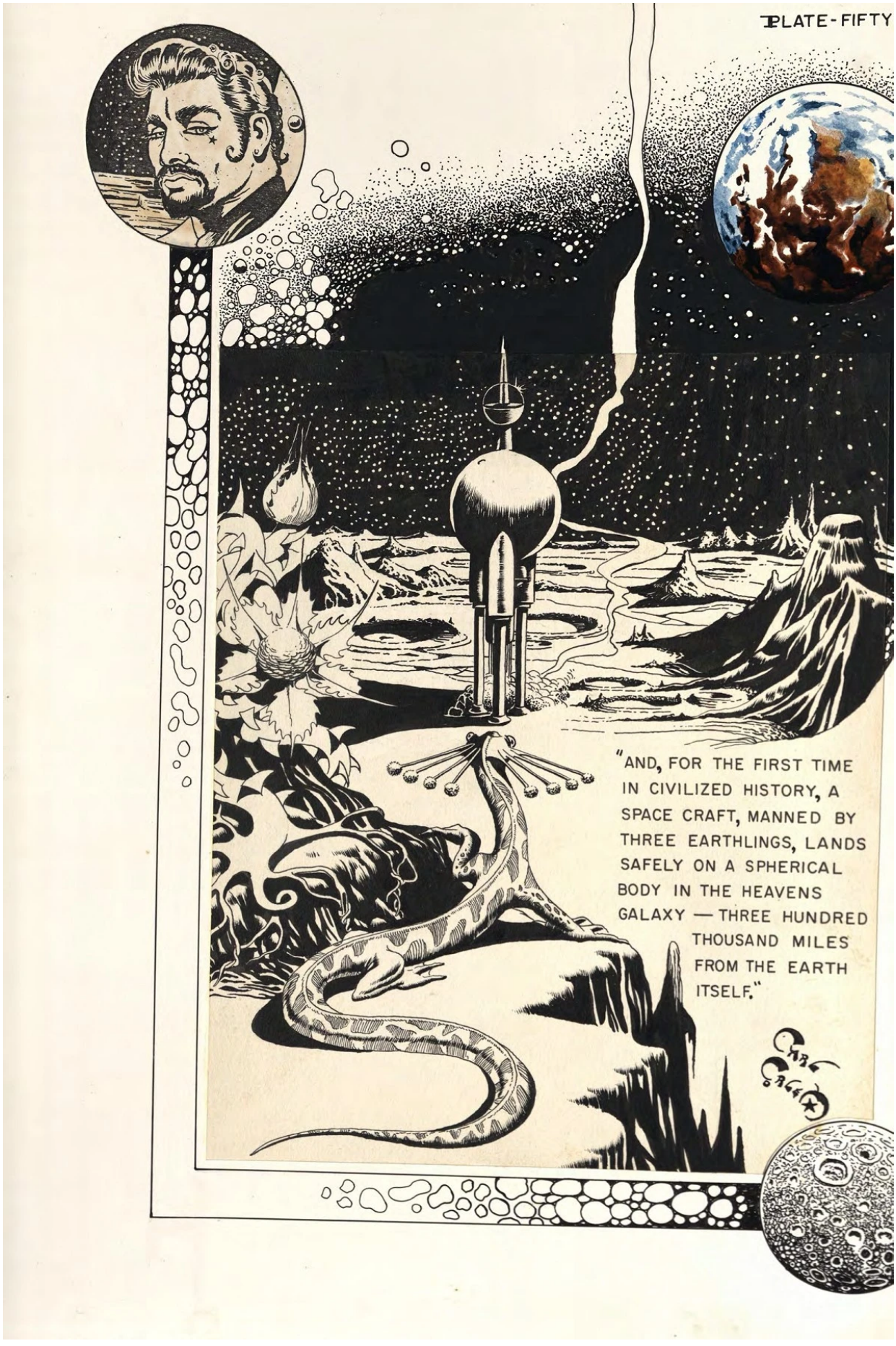


PLATE-FIFTY
"AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN CIVILIZED HISTORY, A SPACE CRAFT, MANNED BY THREE EARTHLINGS, LANDS SAFELY ON A SPHERICAL BODY IN THE HEAVENS GALAXY — THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND MILES FROM THE EARTH ITSELF."

PLATE-FIFTY THREE
"WITH ACUTE SENSATIONS, I AM CERTAIN, OF BOTH TRIUMPH AND DEFEAT, THE TRIO DESCEND TO THE MOONSCAPE BY WAY OF AN ELEVATOR MODULE EQUIPPED WITH A LANDSCOW--A CRUDE METHOD--BRINGING TO MIND OF THOSE PRIMITIVE TIMES WHEN DESERT DRAGONS WERE HARNESSED TO LOWER AND RAISE MINE SHAFTS AT THE GREAT TARAHALLAN ORE EXCAVATIONS."
CARL CRAIG

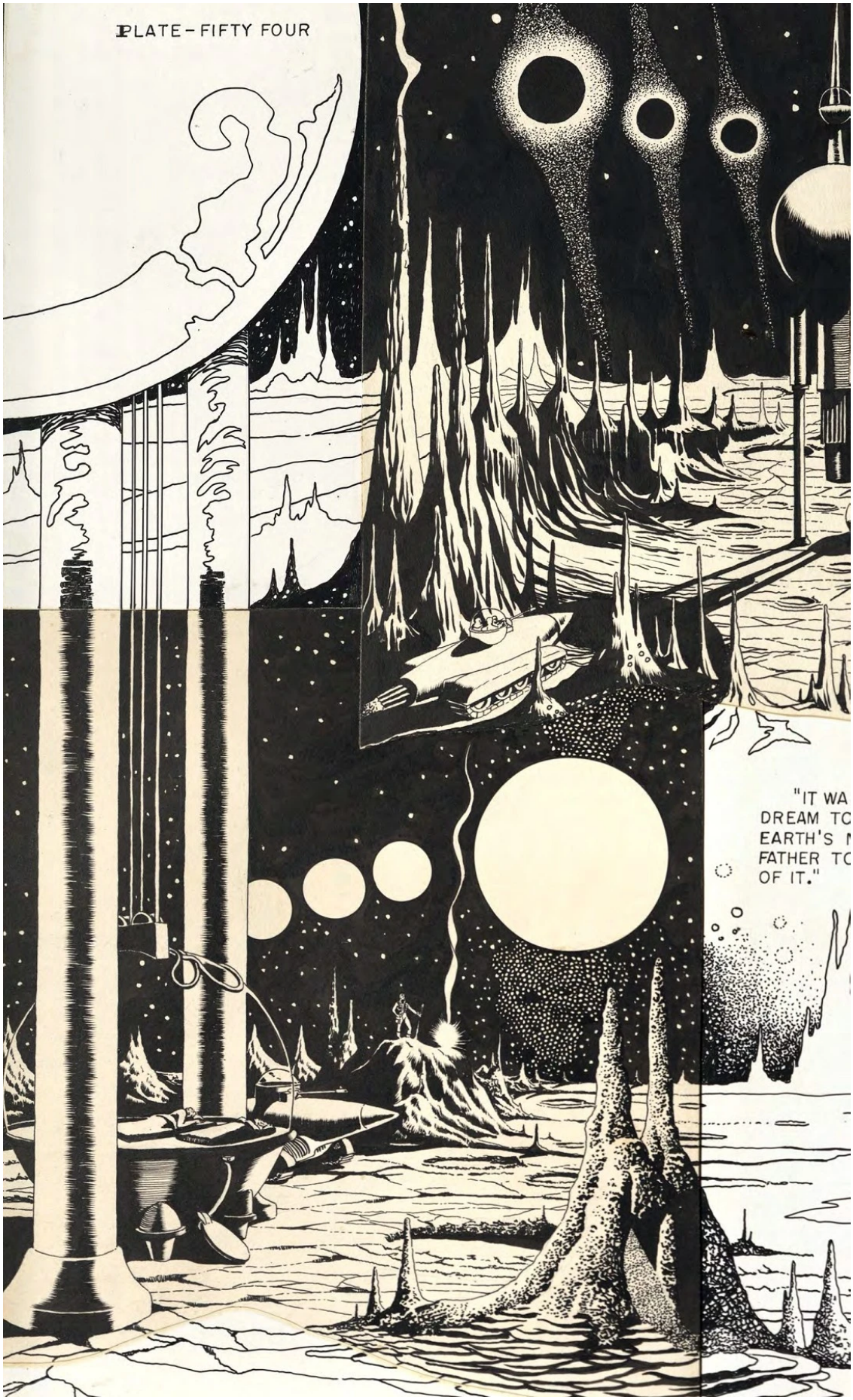


PLATE - FIFTY FOUR
"IT WA
DREAM TO
EARTH'S
FATHER TO
OF IT."

PLATE-FIFTY FIVE
CARL CORLEY
"ACCORDING TO YOUR FATHER, THE EARTH'S MOON WAS AN AWESOME, YET BEAUTIFUL SPECTALE, INFILTRATED WITH STRANGE DEMONS AND MONSTERS."

PLATE - FIFTY SIX
"YOUR FATHER'S NAVIGATOR DIES FROM A WOUND PIERCED BY AN ALIEN MISSILE, AND HE AND HIS FEMALE COHART BECAME DE-MINTED WITH GRIEF."

PLATE-FIFTY SEVEN

PLATE - FIFTY E
"THE EARTH'S
WAS INHABITED BY
EXOTIC RACE OF BE
WHO HAD VENTURED
ANOTHER STAR SYS
AND HAD SET UP A E
THERE."

PLATE-FIFTY NINE

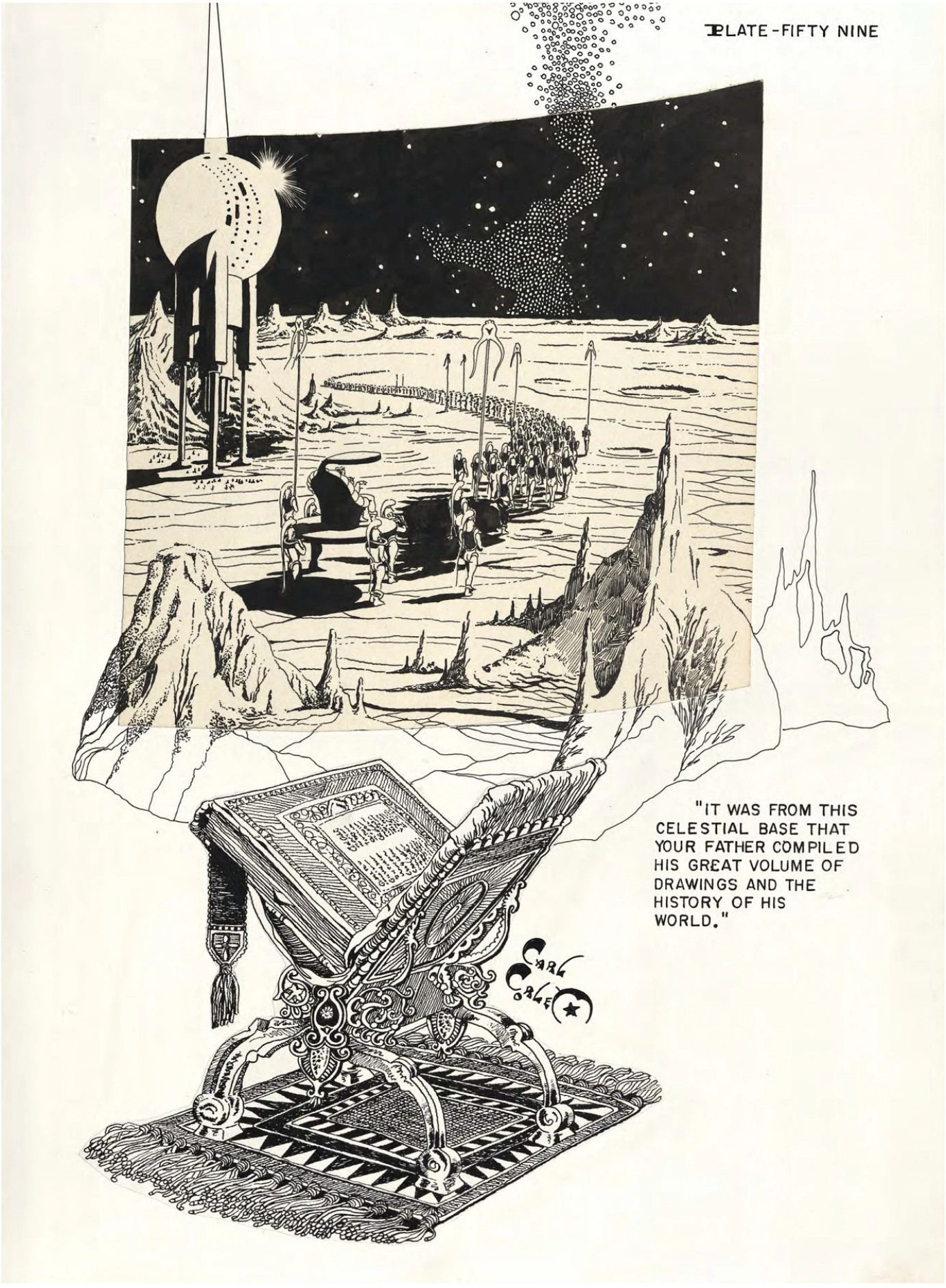
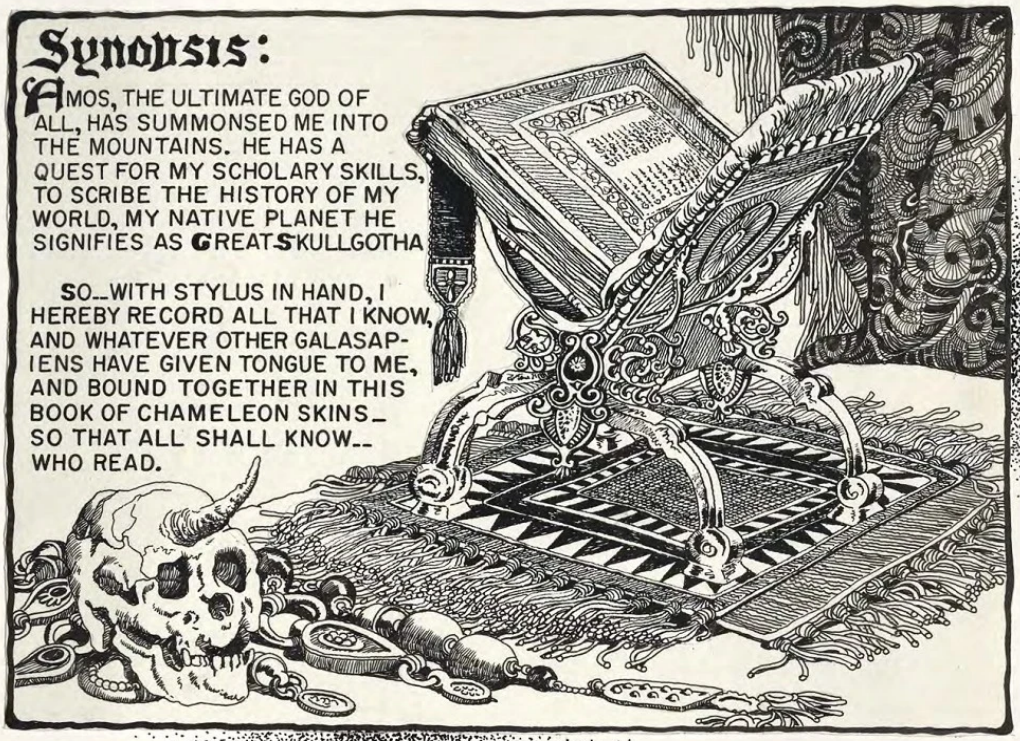


PLATE - SIXTY
HIS ORACLE OVER, OLD GALAXUS LEAVES TIGA POLO TO EXPLORE THE GREAT VOLUME...

PLATE-SIXTY TWO

THE MIGHTY SAGA BEGINS---



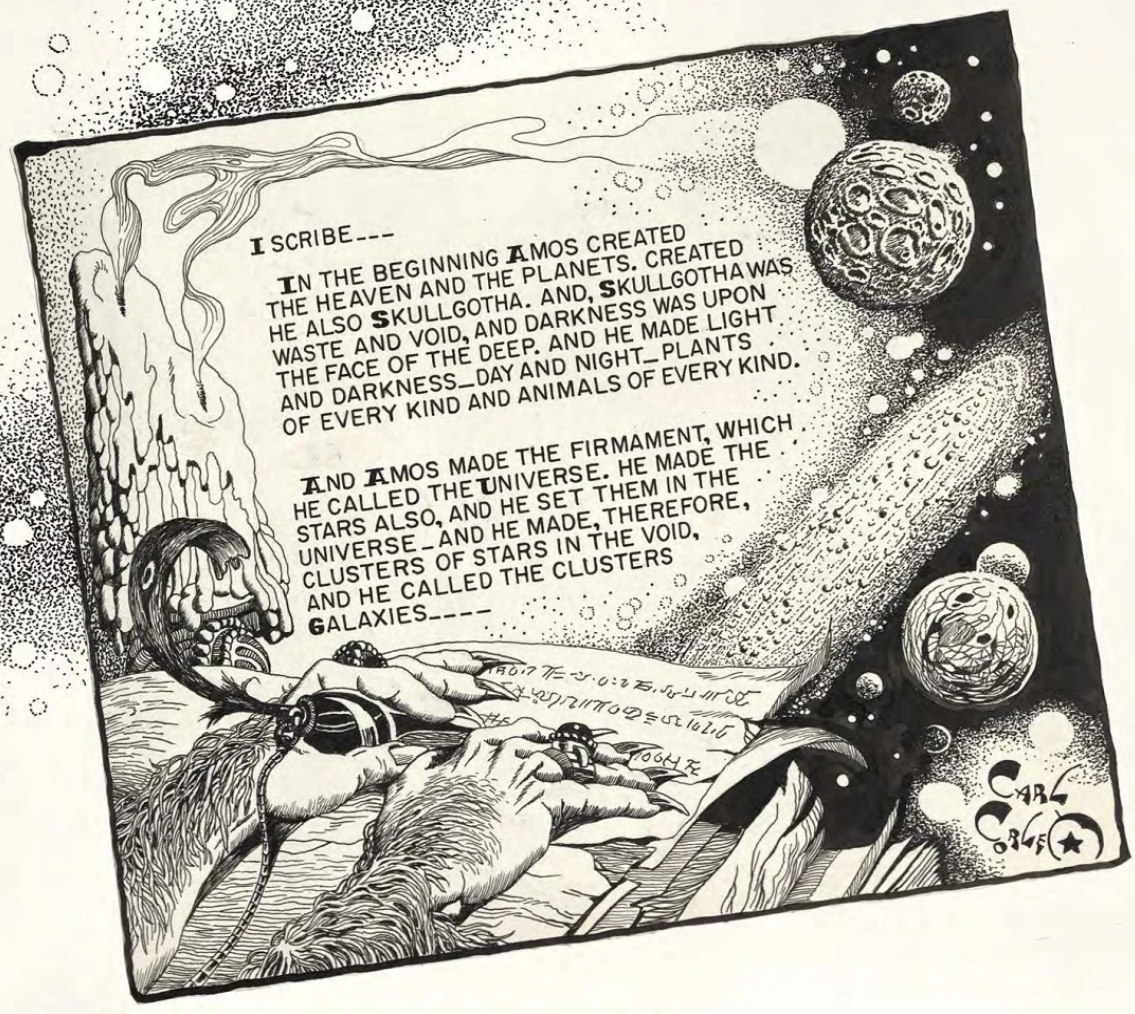


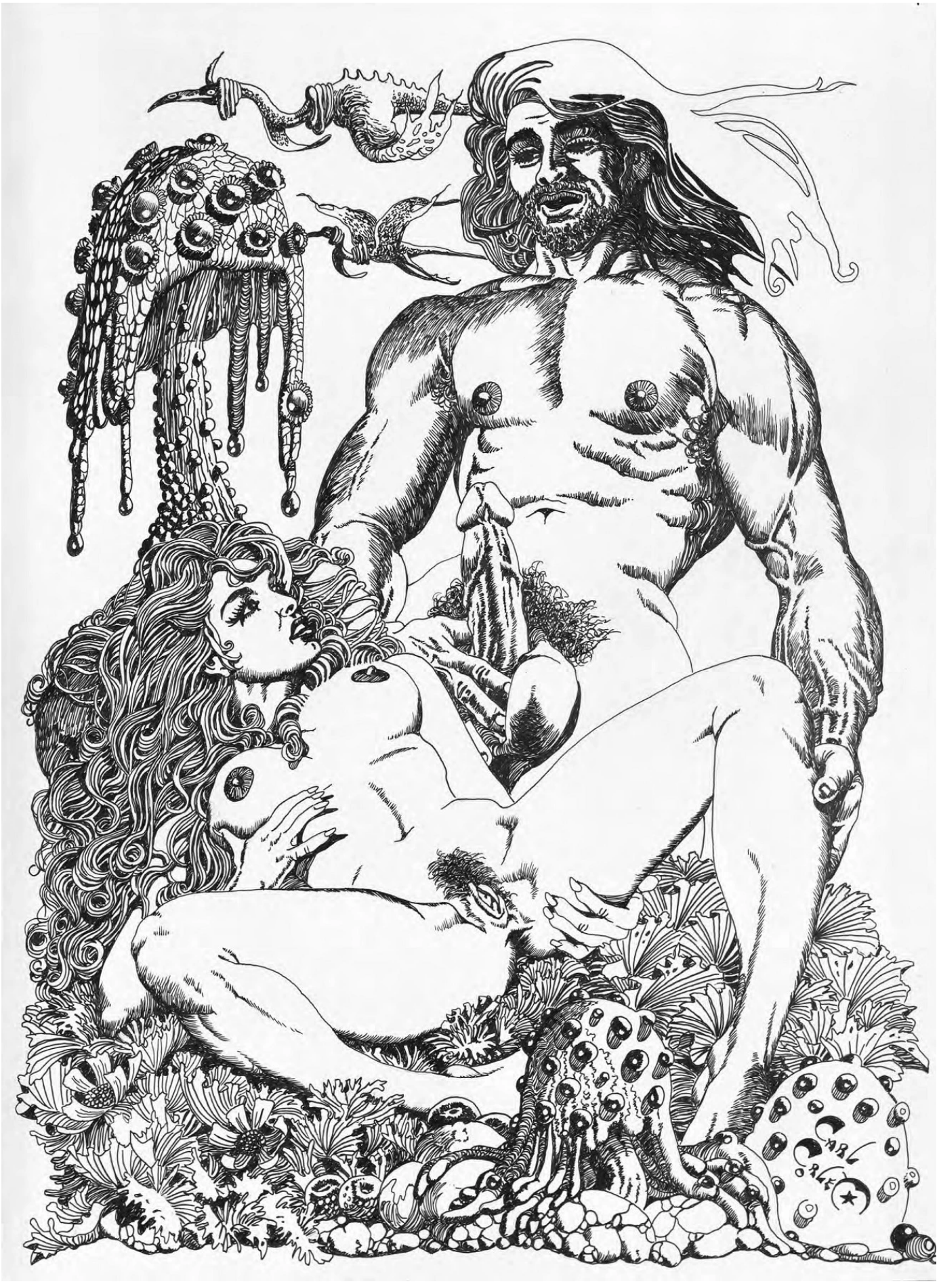
PLATE-SIXTY TH
THROUGH THIS STAR-CLUSTER COMES A WEIRD PHENOMENON_LIKE_YET UNLIKE THE PLANETS WHICH SURROUND IT. A STAR-BUBBLE, IT WANDERS AS IF NO FIXED DESTINATION, NO MOORING SHELF UPON WHICH TO HINGE.
DROPPING ALTITUDE, THE BUBBLE PLUNGES THROUGH A SEA OF GAS, THEN SURFACES_IT LANDS, TOUCHING THE PLANET AS SILENTLY, AS LIGHTLY, AS A SNOKFLAKE!
WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THIS ODD BUBBLE_AN OBJECT STRANGER THAN ANY SKULLGOTHALING EYES HAVE EVER BEHELD_AN ORB, BALANCED PERFECTLY ON A REVOLVING PEDESTAL_BEGANS TO QUIVER WHEN IT IS TAPPED BY A METAL FINGER.
THE SHELL CRACKS, THEN BREAKS IN CHUNKS. THE WALL FALLS AWAY---
--AND A ANTHROPOID_VERY MUC
US_ SLOWLY ALIGHTS.

1
THE CREATURE LEAVES HIS SHELL, AND VENTURES OUT UPON THE SURFACE OF THE PLANET EARTH.....
CARL GALE

CARL
EAGLE

CARL
CRLE

5


CARL
CRLE

CARL
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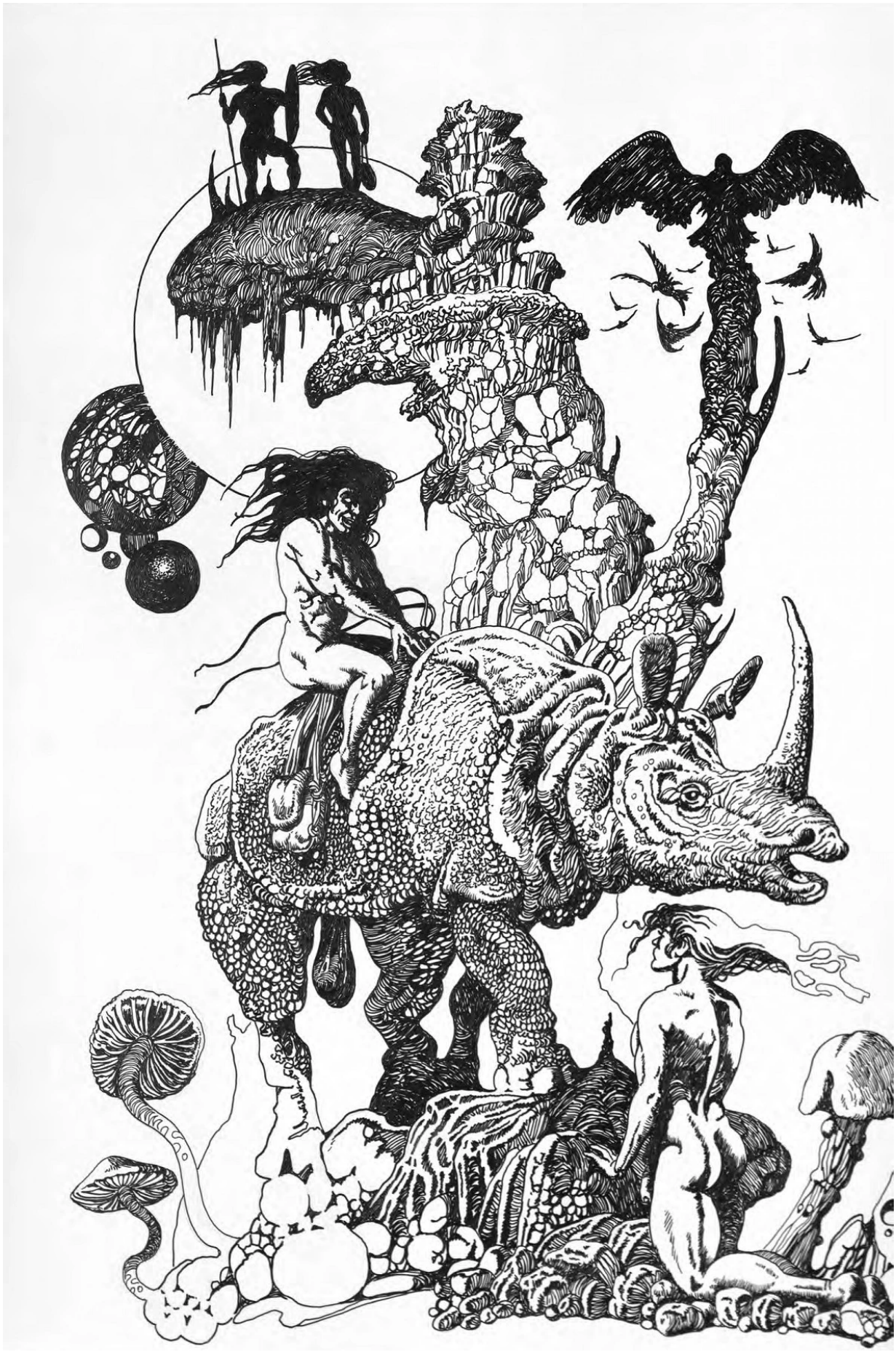

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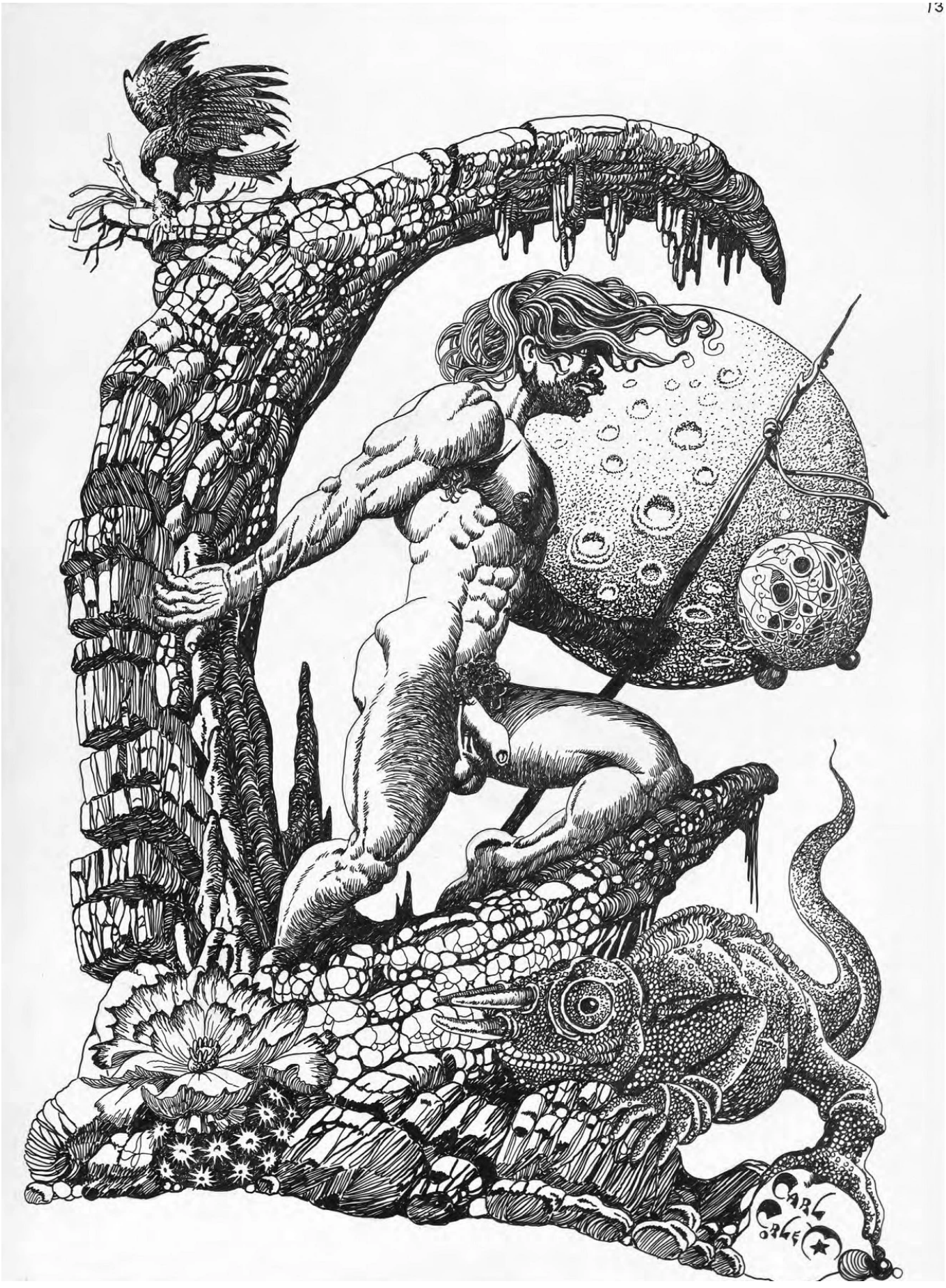
CARLE


CARL
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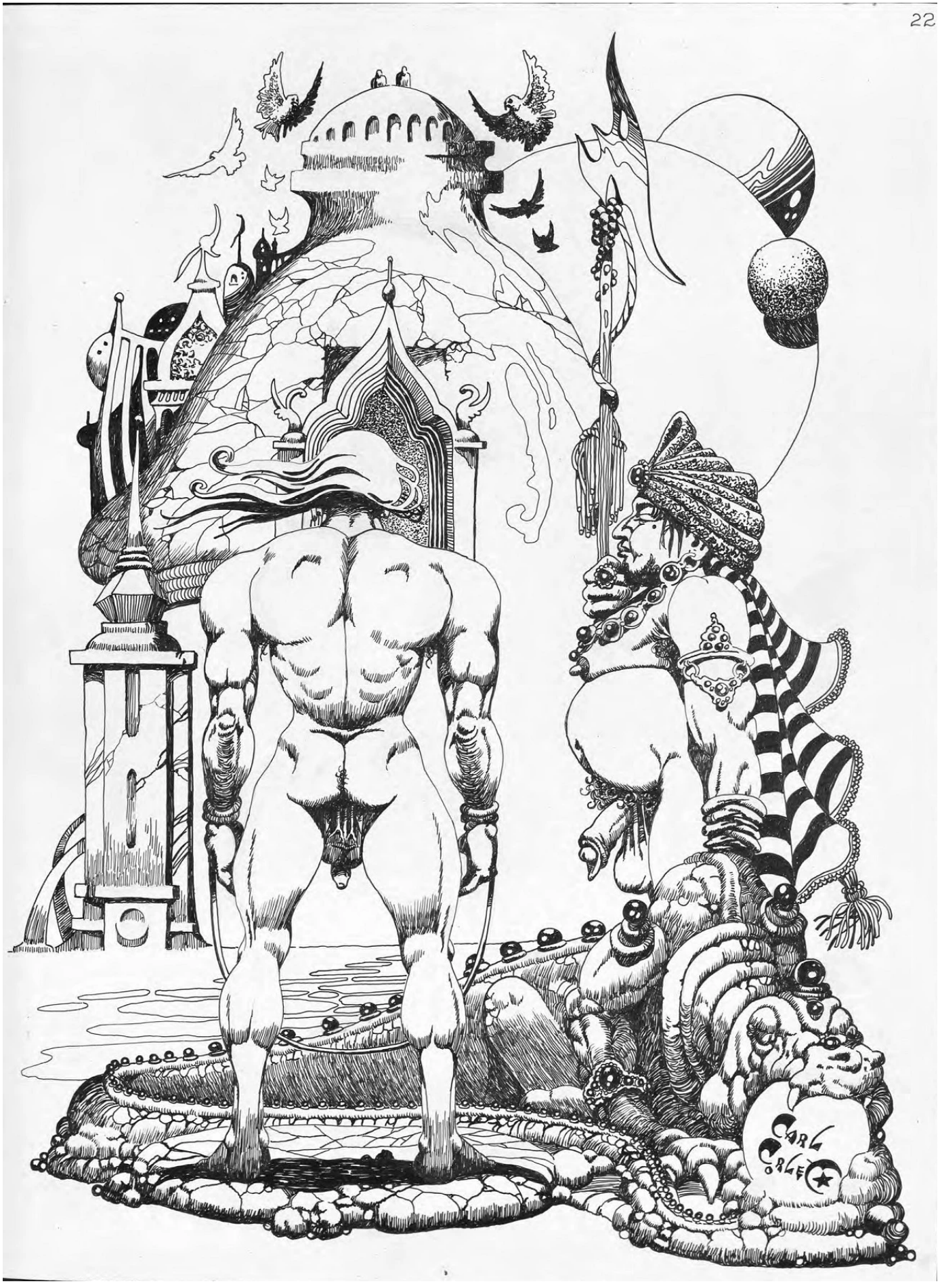
CARL
CARL

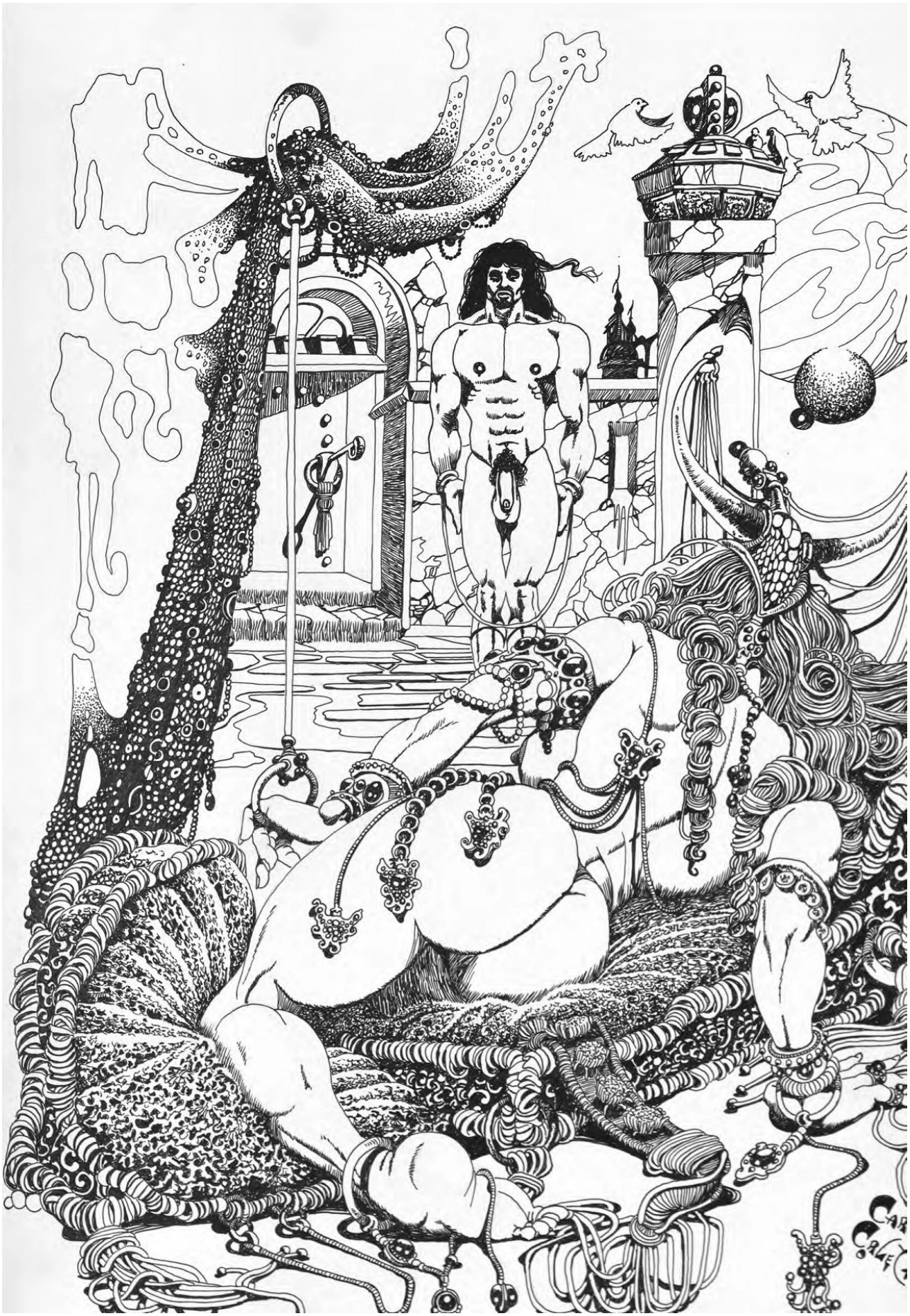
CARL CRAIG

CARL
CORLE

CARL
GALE

CARL
CARLE

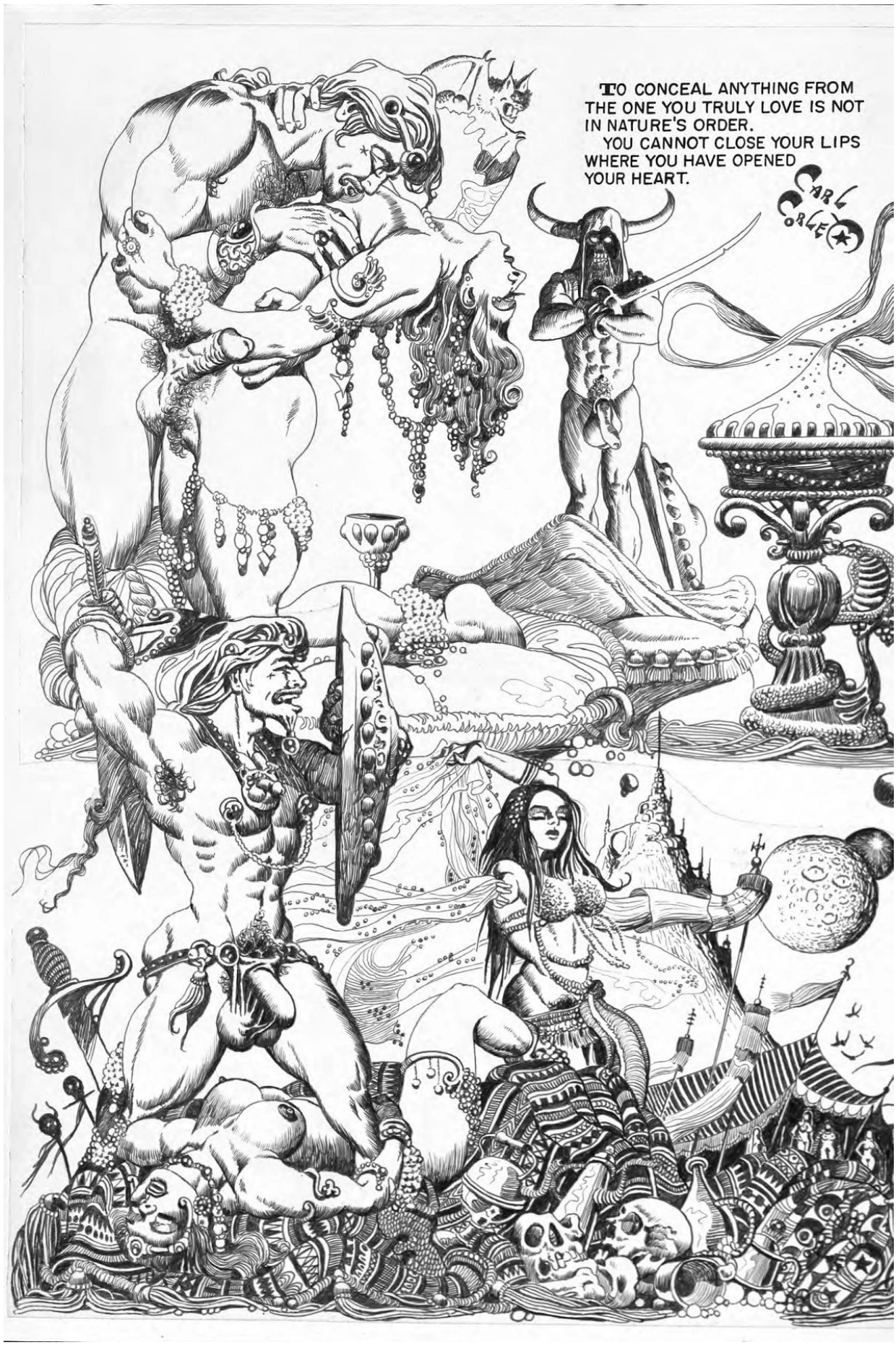

22
CARL
CORLE



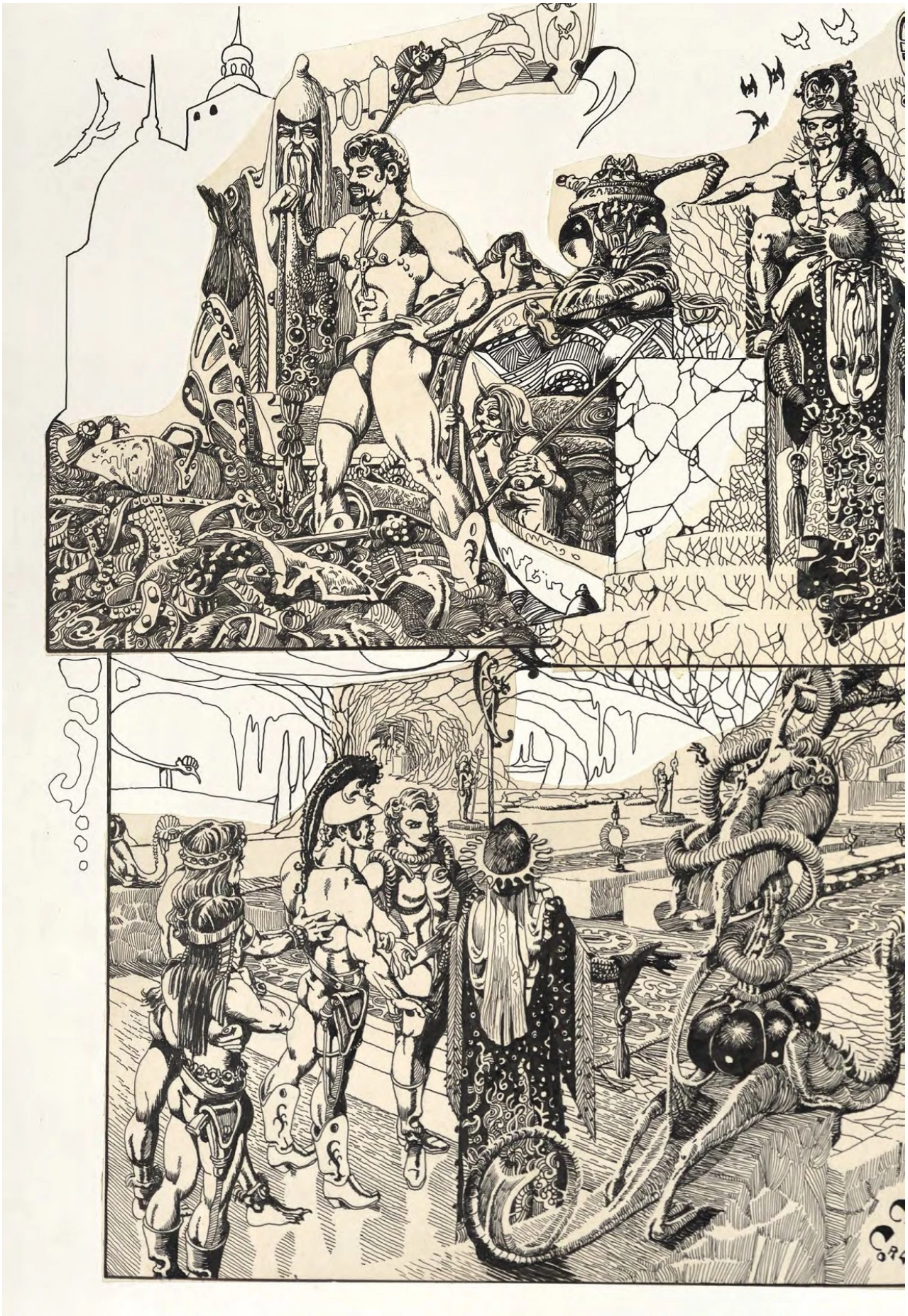
24
CARL CORLEO

CARL
CRLE

CARL
CARLE


TO CONCEAL ANYTHING FROM THE ONE YOU TRULY LOVE IS NOT IN NATURE'S ORDER.
YOU CANNOT CLOSE YOUR LIPS WHERE YOU HAVE OPENED YOUR HEART.
CARL CORLE

CARL
COBLE



30
SEX IS LIKE WATER IN A CUP.
IT SHAPES ITSELF
TO THE VESSEL THAT CONTAINS IT.
CARL CORLE

32
CARL
CORLEY

CARL
CARLS

34
CARL CORLEY

36
CARL CRAIG

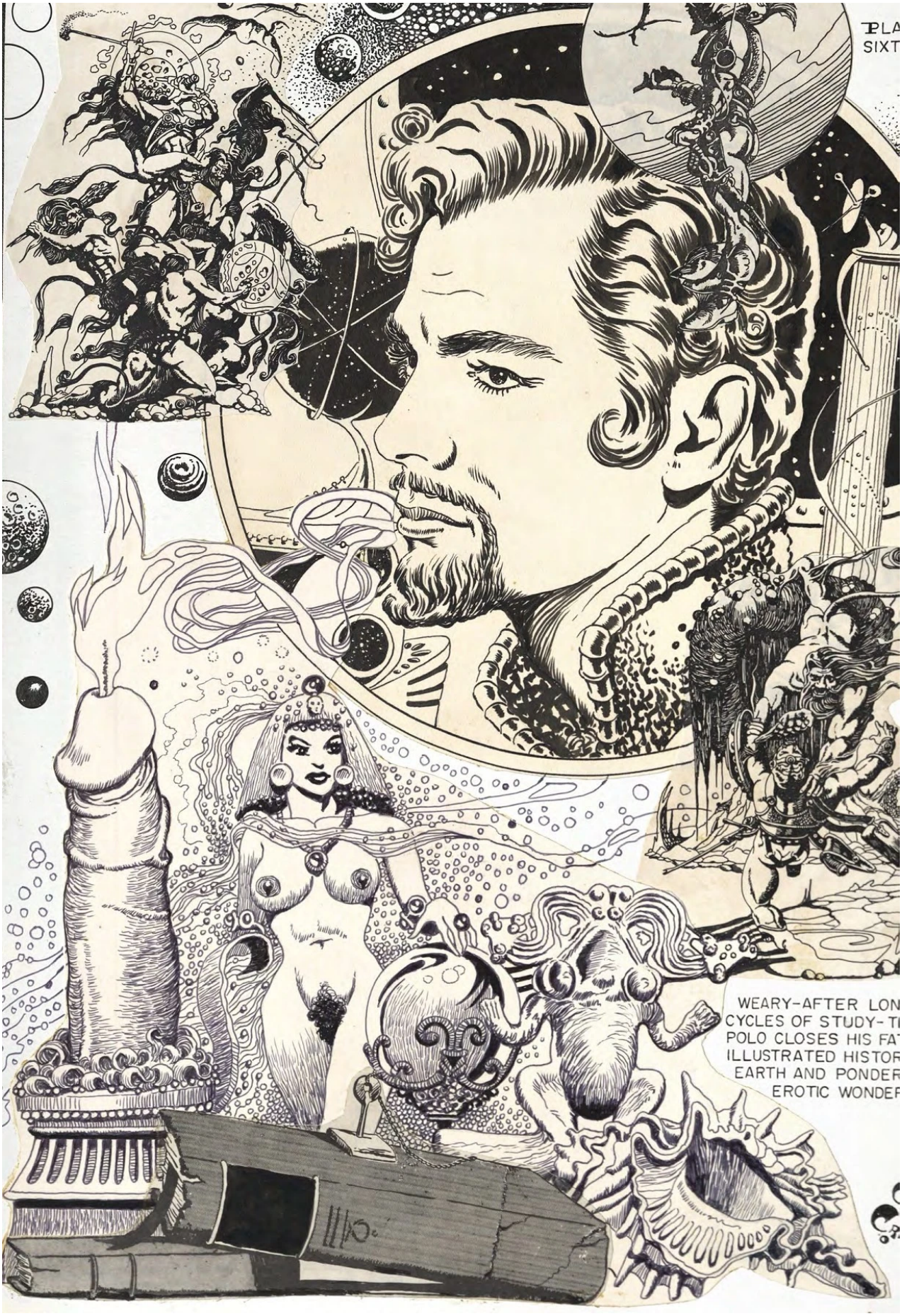
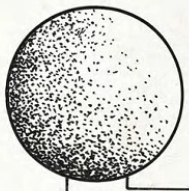
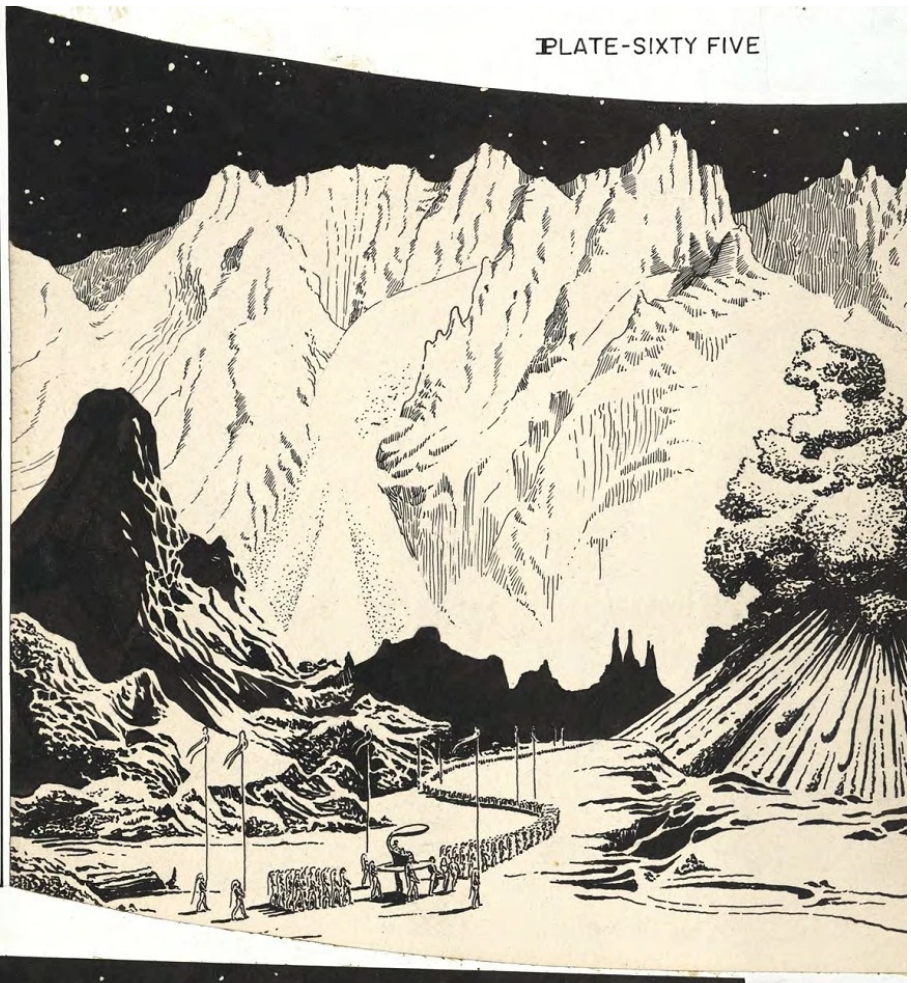

PLA
SIXT
WEARY-AFTER LON
CYCLES OF STUDY-TI
POLO CLOSES HIS FA
ILLUSTRATED HISTOR
EARTH AND PONDER
EROTIC WONDER

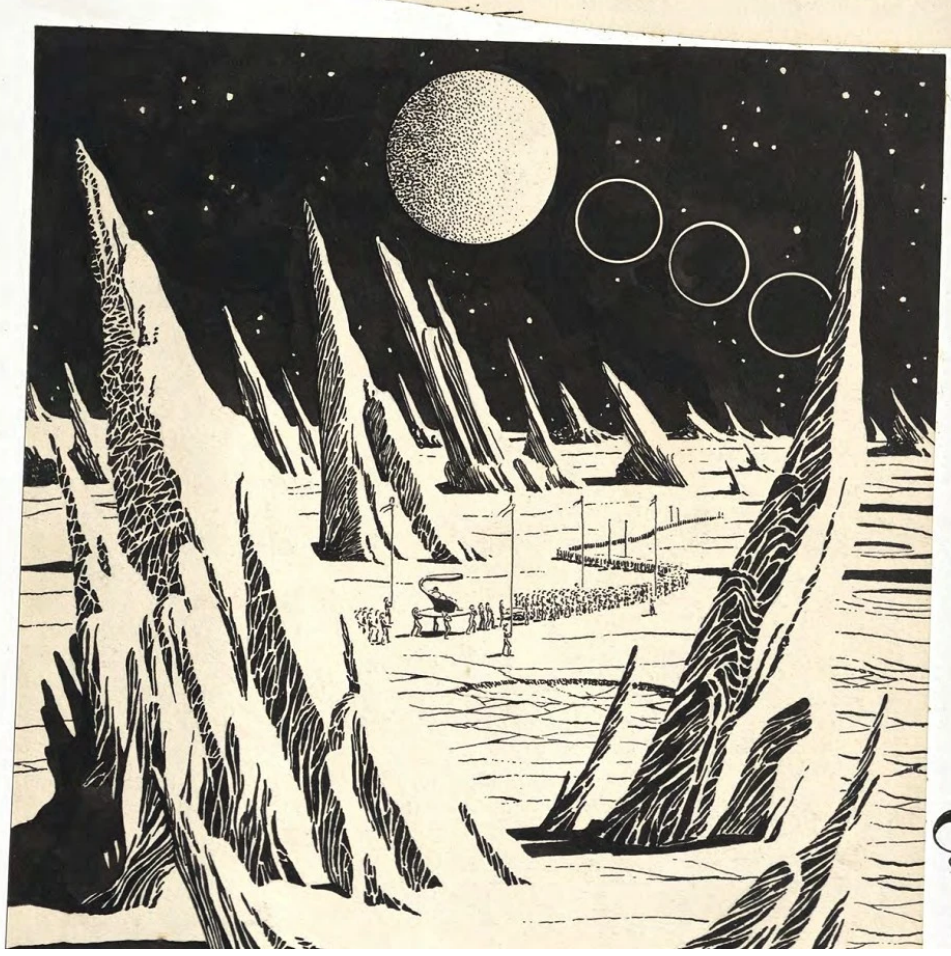
PLATE-SIXTY FIVE

OLD GALAXUS RESUMES HIS EXCITING SAGA:

"YOUR FATHER CONTINUED TO EXPLORE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE EARTH'S SINGLE MOON."







CARL COBLE

PLATE-SIX
"DURING HIS ADVENTURES HE ENCOUNTERED NUMEROUS SEDUCTIVE FEMALES."
A MALE REMAINS A TOTAL MALE WHETHER HE HAS SEX, LOVE, OR MARRIAGE--OR NOT. LIFE'S INTERESTS, AMBITION, WAR, ADVENTURE, EXPLORATION SPORTS DOMINATE HIS LIFE- WITHOUT THE FEMALE PRESEN AS A RACE DOMINATES THE INDIVIDUAL.
BUT--A FEMALE CAN NEVER BECOME THE ULTIMATE FEMALE UNTIL SHE HAS EXPERIENCED SEX, LOVE, AND CHILDBIRTH.
LOVE-TO A MALE-IS ONLY A PART OF HIS LIFE.
TO A FEMALE, ITS HER WHOLE EXISTENCE!
CARL CALE

PLATE- SIXTY SEVEN
"AND--HANDSOME, EXOTIC MALES."
CARL ORLEY

PLATE-SIXT
"LOOK, LEA, OUR OWN BELO
WORLD."
"FINALLY—YOUR FATHER'S
VOYAGE BACK TO EARTH."
CARL
CORLE

PLATE-SIXTY NINE

TIGA POLO RESUMES HIS DUTIES AMID THE STARS---

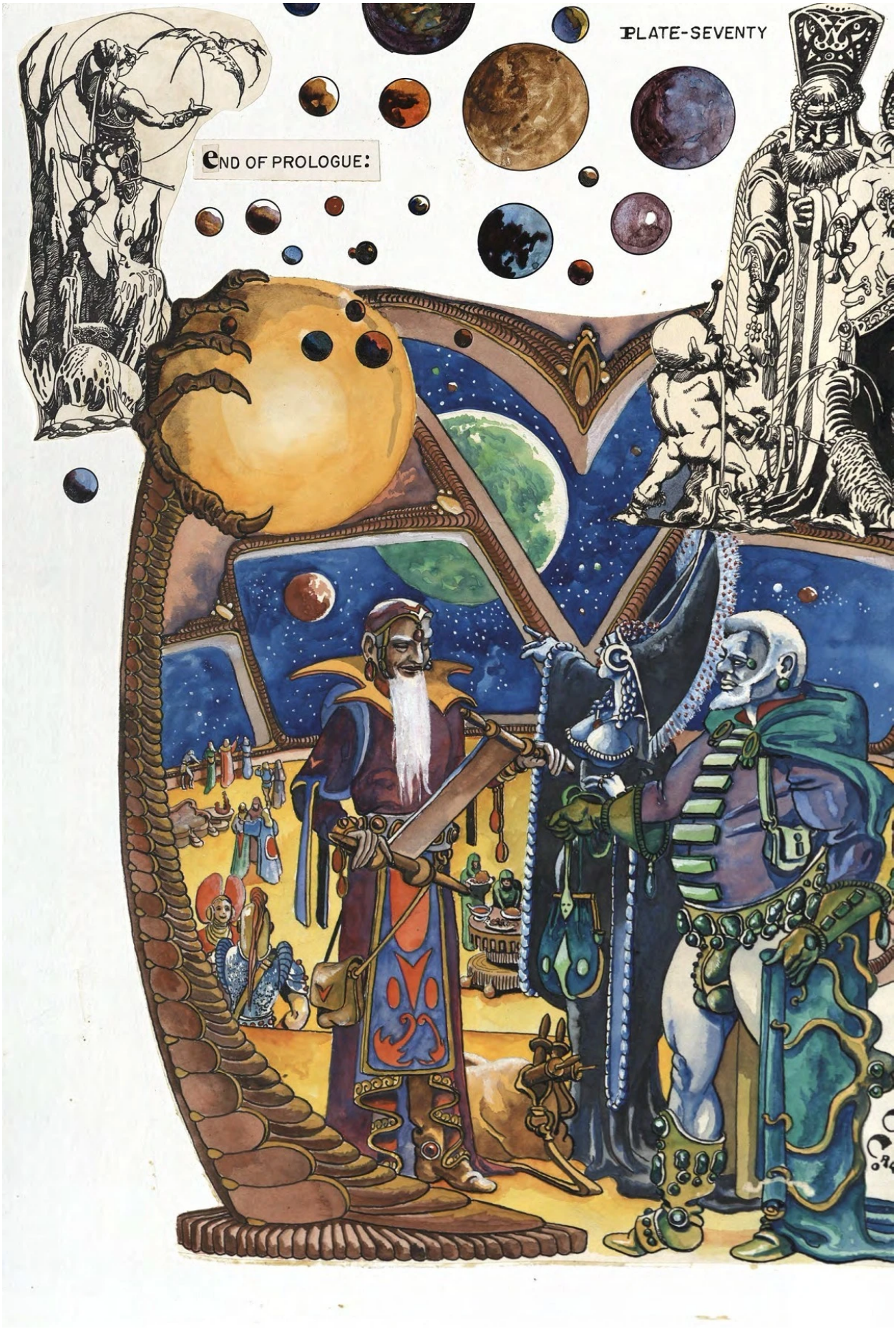


PLATE-SEVENTY
END OF PROLOGUE: